LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part I – Questions and Answers)

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SEVENTH SESSION

1954

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 24th August, 1954

The Lok Sabha met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TUBE-WELLS IN PUNJAB

*36. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) how many exploratory tube-wells will be constructed in the Punjab during the current year; and

(b) What will be the total cost of such tube-wells and in which part of the Punjab they are going to be constructed?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) None. About 46 tube-wells provisionally allotted to Punjab under the project are expected to be taken up only during the second phase of the programme which may start sometime after June, 1956.

(b) The total cost of these 46 tube-wells will depend on their actual depth and the strata encountered in the course of drilling.

Districts of Gurgaon, Rohtak, Hissar, Ambala, Hoshiarpur and Gurdaspur have been provisionally selected as suitable for the construction of these tube-wells, on the basis of preliminary geological investigations.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if preliminary geological investigation has been held in all the districts and if the investigation shows which of these districts is most in need of the exploratory tubewells?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: As the hon. Member probably knows, there are many tubewells being dug in many of the districts of Punjab. There are only some districts where there are no possibilities of other irrigation facilities being available, and the preliminary geological investigation is necessarily limited to those districts.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Is it not a fact that these districts stand in great need of tubewells and the provision of 46 tubewells by 1956 is not sufficient? What are the causes for this?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The agreement was signed only recently, and tubewells are going to be dug all over India. We are obtaining equipment and other things from America, and we have had to phase these according to the various circumstances of each State, and Punjab is going to have its turn not very late, but fairly early.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, if India is not self-sufficient so far as material for tubewells goes, and if it is not, when is it going to be made self-sufficient?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: At the moment, so far as our information goes, all the equipment that is in the country is being fully utilized.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether it is a fact that the entire contract for digging tubewells in the Punjab has been given to a firm under the name of Harold T. Smith, and may I also know whether it is not a fact that for these tubewells several thousands of rupees

are paid to this company more than in other parts of the country?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I submit this part of the question cannot really arise out of this question because this relates only to exploratory and not ordinary tubewells, some of which work is done by Harold T. Smith.

Shri V. P. Nayar: That is germane to this.

Mr. Speaker: We may go to the next question.

उत्तर प्रदेश में चीनी का वितरण

*३७. **श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी** : क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की स्थायी खाद्य तथा रसद समिति ने केन्द्रीय सरकार की व्यापारियों को सीधे चीनी बांटने की नीति पर आपत्ति की है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि राज्य सरकार के पास चीनी के वितरण के लिए उपयुक्त व्यवस्था तथा अनुभव है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो केन्द्रीय सरकार ने राज्य सरकार से यह काम क्यों ले लिया है;

(घ) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के कुछ स्थानों में चीनी के भाव असाधारण रूप से बढ़ गये थे; तथा

(ङ) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने राज्य सरकार की चीनी की मांग के सम्बन्ध में क्या निर्णय किया है ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) (a) to (e). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 12.]

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : बयान में लिखा है कि :

> "The U.P. Government were, however, assured that if the State Government desired to distribute sugar through their own agencies, there should be no difficulty."

इस बयान के सिलसिले में क्या उत्तर प्रदेश गवर्नमेंट ने सरकार से शकर के बांटने के सिलसिले में कोई मांग की ? अगर हां, तो सरकार ने क्या इन्तिजाम किया ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : स्टेटमेंट में पूरी हालत बतलायी गयी है । मैं समझता हूं कि इसके सिवा कुछ उत्तर देने की आवश्यकता नहीं है ।

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : स्टेटमेंट में इस बात का पूरा पूरा बयान नहीं दिया गया है कि उत्तर प्रदेश गवर्नमेंट ने शकर के बारे में इसके बाद क्या मांग की ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : यह लिखा है कि उत्तर प्रदेश गवर्नमेंट ने उसके बाद मांग नहीं की क्योंकि जो शकर दी गयी है उसमें से उन्होंने या उनके एजेंट्स ने एक टन भी शुगर नहीं निकाली ।

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : बयान में दूसरी जगह लिखा हुआ है कि :

> "...the State Government no longer possess adequate machinery for distribution of sugar....."

मैं यह जानना चाहता था कि राशनिंग के वक्त जो मशीनरी उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के पास थी क्या वह बिल्कुल बन्द कर दी गयी है और यदि नहीं बन्द की गयी है तो क्या कारण है कि उन्होंने यह उत्तर दिया कि मशीनरी काफी नहीं है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री किदवई) : ऐसा जवाब तो नहीं दिया गया । ऐसा ख्याल है कि वह मशीनरी नहीं रही है । यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट ने जितनी शकर मांगी थी हमने उनको आफर की लेकिन उसके साथ साथ हमने कहा कि दूसरे जरिये से तकसीम करें ताकि सस्ती रहे। जिस वक्त यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट को कोटा एलाट किया गया उस वक्त उसके लेने वाले कुछ पोलीटिकल्स भी थे । उन्होंने लेने से इन्कार कर दिया ।

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : गवर्नमेंट ने जो कदम उठाये क्या उनकी वजह से उत्तर प्रदेश में शकर के दाम घटे या बढ़े ?

श्री किदवई : अगर शकर के दाम कम न होते तो यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट ने जिनको शकर एलाट की थी वह उसको ले गये होते ।

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

*38. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) what were the important subjects discussed and considered at the Conference of Ministers of Local Self-Governments held at Simla in June 1954;

(b) whether any decisions were taken thereon; and

(c) if so, what were the decisions and what action Government propose to take thereon?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) A copy of the agenda showing the points discussed and considered at the Conference of Ministers of Local Self-Governments is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 13.]

(b) Yes.

(c) The Conference formed two Committees—the Panchayats Committee and the Local Bodies Committee which considered the various items of the Agenda with which they were respectively concerned. The proceedings of the Conference, including the Reports of the two Committees and the resolutions passed in the Conference, are being printed and a copy thereof will be laid on the table of the House shortly.

Necessary action on the decisions taken by the Conference is being taken.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether this Conference had before it the report on the working of the Panchayats Acts in different States?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Of course, the report was there, but the Ministers themselves represented and discussed in full what was happening in their States, the difficulties they were meeting with and what they had done so far.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the Central Government is aware that the various States where the panchayat system was introduced have prepared annual reports about the working of these Acts in their States?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The Government of India has not got these reports. Doubtless the State Governments have got them.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether any individuals or representatives of organizations were also invited to this Conference, and if so, which were those organisations?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes, Sir. Representatives of the Planning Commission were invited. Representatives of the Congress were invited, and I think there were representatives of one or two others, but I have not at the moment got the information.

Shri A. M. Thomas: One of the items in the agenda was the necessity for Central legislation and also a Central co-ordinating authority. May I enquire whether any decisions have been taken by the Conference on this subject, and if so, what exactly has been the decision?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: As I have already said, I have not got the report with me here. As soon as it is printed, it will be laid on the Table of the House.

DEEP-SEA FISHING

*39. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in organising deep-sea fishing around the coastal belt; and

(b) whether Government propose to leave it to the private industry to organise deep-sea fishing or propose to undertake it under their auspices?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 14.]

Shri V. P. Nayar: What is the estimated quantity of fish hauled by deep-sea fishing in the Plan years on account of arrangements said to be made in the statement supplied to us?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I would like to have notice of the question.

Shri V. P. Nayar: In view of the fact that the private industry is reported to be very shy in investing capital for the development of deep-sea fishing, why is it that Government have not so far invested capital and taken up the responsibility upon themselves to develop deep-sea fishing?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: To the extent possible, the Government has taken the responsibility in arranging these pilot projects, and they are going on, and we want to intensify that by requisitioning and keeping 21 fishing vessels.

Shri Buchhikotaiah: What steps are being taken to organise deep-sea fishing in the coastal area of Andhra?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I want notice of the question.

SHELLAC

*41. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of the total production of Shellac is exported every year and to which countries; and

(b) the measures that have been taken to increase the internal consumption during the last two years?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) About 95 per cent. of the total production of shellac is exported. The countries to which it is manly exported are the U.S.A. the U.K., Germany, Japan, France, Italy and U.S.S.R.

(b) A statement showing the measures adopted to increase home consumption of shellac during the last two years is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 15.]

Sardar Hukam Singh: What was the total amount of exchange earned during the last twelve months, on account of this export?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am afraid I must ask for notice, in regard to the actual value.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Since the appointment of the Shellac Utilisation Officer in July 1953, what has been the increase in internal consumption?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is difficult to say how much increase there has been as a result of the efforts of this particular officer. But on the whole, the consumption in India before the second world war was five per cent. Then it went up to about fifteen per cent. during the war period. It has now come down slightly. I think we have been able to achieve a little better results as a result of the efforts of this officer.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What was the total amount spent on publicity, by this officer, during the last twelve months, to encourage the growth and production of this product?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I must ask for notice of the question.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know the total quantity and value of shellac exported, and how much of that quantity, and to what value, was exported to the U.S.S.R.?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: As I said earlier, I have not got the exact figures. I would require notice of that question.

COACHES FROM SWITZERLAND

*42. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new upper class Railway coaches imported from Switzerland from the 1st January, 1953 to the 31st May, 1954;

(b) whether it is a fact that the berths of these coaches are defective; and

(c) why these coaches have been withdrawn from the Frontier Mail and other Express trains?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Sixteen.

(b) No.

(c) On account of complaints of inadequate leg room between the seats in Second Class compartments.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether the berths of these coaches are of less width than the ordinary higher class coaches, and therefore, they are less comfortable?

Shri Alagesan: Yes. These are all corridor type coaches. As far as Second Class accommodation is concerned, there were complaints that they are more inconvenient, and people seem to prefer the conventional type of Second Class coaches.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether these withdrawn coaches are attached to the ordinary local trains and other passenger trains?

Shri Alagesan: For short distance and other passenger trains.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is it a fact that these coaches were purchased cheaper than the other upper class coaches purchased earlier?

Shri Alagesan: All these coaches were ordered, and they were furnished here—most of them are furnished here, for Second Class, First Class, and so on.

FOOD GRAIN PRICES

***43. Shri S. C. Singhal:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the prices of food grains have gone down causing great hardship thereby to the cultivators;

(b) whether Government have considered any plan for standardising the food grain prices; and

(c) what quantity of food grains is in the stock of Government, its cost price and its present value?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) It is true that prices of foodgrains have been tending to come down but so far the levels reached by this downward trend are not such as to cause hardship to the cultivators.

(b) No plan has yet been formulated but Government are watching the situation and suitable measures will be taken if the prices tend to fall below uneconomic levels. In the case of wheat the Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Pepsu Governments had notified that if prices fall below Rs. 10 per maund, they would commence purchasing wheat.

(c) There is a stock of about 15·4 lakh tons of foodgrains with the Government; out of this 12·2 lakh tons were still with the State Governments on 1st August, 1954 (in the process of being taken over by the Centre) and 3·2 lakh tons with the Centre including stocks already taken over from the State Governments till that date. The book value of foodgrains held in the Central Reserve is about Rs. 14·9 crores and its estimated present market value is about Rs. 13·6 crores. It is difficult to indicate immediately the precise value of rice stocks which Centre will be taking over from State Governments, but it can be very approximately estimated at Rs. 57 crores

Shri S. C. Singhal: May I know whether the fall in price is due to increase in production, or due to the fall in the purchasing power of the people?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is certainly due to more production.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether Government have any idea as to what extent the prices of foodgrains would still fall?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: For the time being, the fall has been arrested, and

there is a little upward trend in some places.

Dr. Rama Rao: In the face of the present low prices of foodstuffs, are Government going to import Burma rice at a higher price?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We are bound to import what we have contracted for. We do not intend to import any more. In fact, we are anxious to export.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I heard the hon. Minister employing the term 'over-production' in this connection. May I ask him whether...

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Not over-production, but more production.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Increased production.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, increased production.

WATER SUPPLY IN JHARIA COAL-FIELDS

*45. **Shri P. C. Bose:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is still a short supply of water in the Jharia coal-fields;

(b) whether the amount sanctioned as grant and loan for augmentation of water supply, has been made available to the Jharia Water Board; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay in the implementation of the scheme to augment the water supply there?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The money which was to be made available to the Government of Bihar has not yet been disbursed as the Government of Bihar has not claimed it so far. They are still negotiating with the Damodar Valley Corporation for a reasonable rate for a supply of water from the Damodar River.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know what the actual difference is between the Bihar Government and the DVC, as regards the water rate from the Damodar river?

Shri V. V. Giri: The Damodar Valley Corporation quoted to the State Government a rate of two annas and six pies per thousand gallons of water drawn from the river. The Bihar Government are negotiating with the Damodar Velley Corporation for a reasonable rate, say, six pies per thousand gallons.

Shri P. C. Bose: If they cannot come to a decision as regards the rate, may I know what the Government propose to do to finalise the matter?

Shri V. V. Giri: Let us wait and see.

MICA MINE WORKERS

*46. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rupees three lakhs is due to about 5,000 workers of Mica Mines in Rajasthan by way of wages; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to see that these dues are paid?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) A sum of about Rupees five lakhs seventy one thousand was due to about 3,000 mica workers in March this year. The amount was brought down to about Rupees three lakhs seventy one thousand by the end of June.

(b) The Officers of the Industrial Relations Machinery are getting the arrears of wages cleared either by persuation or by penal action against the defaulters as may be suitable. These officers have also been required to intimate the progress monthly. Instructions have been issued for more vigorous action for recovery of the arrears.

Shri K. P. Sinha: May I know the main causes leading to non-payment to this large number of workers?

Shri V. V. Giri: It may be due, at the present moment, to the uneconomic nature of the industry.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether the Minimum Wages Act and the Payment of Wages Act are in force in Rajasthan?

Shri V. V. Giri: Yes.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: May I know the number of licence-holders, who have stopped mining operations?

Shri V. V. Giri: Notice.

Shri Kelappan: How many mica mines in Rajasthan have been closed down?

Shri V. V. Giri: I have not got the information.

SPECIAL TRAINS FOR KURUKSHETRA

*47. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of special trains that the Northern Railway had to run to Kurukshetra for the Solar Eclipse in the last week of June 1954;

(b) the special arrangements made to cope with the rush and the special facilities provided by the Railways to the pilgrims; and

(c) the total income derived therefrom?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Eighty Nine, *viz.*, 38 inward and 51 outward Specials.

(b) A statement furnishing the information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 16.]

(c) Approximately Rs. 2·33 lacs.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know the total number of persons who travelled by special trains to Kurukshetra?

Shri Alagesan: I have not got the figures in respect of the number of persons who travelled by these special trains. I have got with me only the figures relating to the total amount of fares that was realised.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know the total amount spent by the Railways for special arrangements?

Shri Alagesan: It is about Rs. 1,82,000.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know whether any temporary station was constructed for the purpose?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): Yes, the platforms were extended, new circulating areas were made, several new booking offices were opened, and other arrangements were made.

बालू वाली भूमि में गेहूं की खेती

*४८. **श्री आर० एन० सिंह** : क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मंत्री १० मई, १९५४ को पूछे गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २३५५ के दिए गये उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बालू वाली भूमि में गेहूं उगाने के प्रयोग किन किन राज्यों में किए गये हैं;

(ख) क्या इन प्रयोगों के परिणाम प्राप्त हो गये हैं;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इनमें कितनी सफलता मिली है; और

(घ) उन व्यक्तियों के नाम क्या हैं जिन्होंने ये प्रयोग किए हैं और वे किस देश के नागरिक हैं ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No other State except Rajasthan where experiments are in progress.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

श्री आर० एन० सिंह : इस प्रयोग में कितना खर्च हुआ ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : पांच साल के लिये २०,००० रुपये का प्राविजन था ।

Mr. Speaker: He does not want to know the provision made. He wants to know what is the amount of expenditure.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is only a small amount—may be about Rs. 5,000. It was started only on the 1st of April, 1953.

Shri N. L. Joshi: May I know the cost of production per acre?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have not got the figure. I require notice.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai) *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

CHANDERNAGORE

***49. Shri Tushar Chatterjea:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after promulgation of Indian Labour Laws in Chandernagore, no machinery has yet been set up for the implementation of these laws;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and when such machinery will be set up;

(c) whether any representation in this regard has been received from Chandernagore by Government; and

(d) if so, what action have Government taken on it?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) and (b). Machinery for the implementation of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, and the Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952, and the Employees Provident Fund Scheme, 1952, has already been set up in Chandernagore. As regards other enactments the matter is under consideration.

(c) Yes.

(d) Before the receipt of the representation Government had already taken action to set up the necessary machinery for the implementation of labour laws in Chandernagore.

I may add that 12 Labour Acts, by notification, have been extended to Chandernagore. West Bengal Government officers are entrusted with the administration of labour laws in Chandernagore. The Regional Provident Fund Commissioner for West Bengal will be the Regional Commissioner for Chandernagore. The functions of the Central Government were entrusted to the Administrator of Chandernagore.

Shri Tushar Chatterjea: May I know whether any definite machinery to deal with labour disputes has been set up?

Shri V. V. Giri: Yes, it is set up.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know who is supposed to act as the Conciliation Officer and to recommend references to industrial tribunals in respect of Chandernagore?

Shri V. V. Giri: The Chief Labour Commissioner, the Regional Labour Commissioner.

Shri Punnoose: Can we have information with regard to the number of labour disputes in the last six months? How many are pending?

Shri V. V. Giri: I require notice.

Shri Tushar Chatterjea: May I know whether Government have any information about the fact that in case of labour disputes, the West Bengal Labour Commissioner has refused to take responsibility about dealing with them?

Shri V. V. Giri: I have no information.

CENTRAL TRACTOR ORGANISATION

***50. Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of heavy and medium tractors at present with the Central Tractor Organisation;

(b) the total amount invested on these tractors;

(c) the extent of land reclaimed so far; and

(d) the acreage of reclaimed land which has not yet been allotted to any one?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The Central Tractor Organisation at present possesses 374 heavy and 51 medium tractors.

(b) The original amount invested in the purchase of 374 heavy tractors was Rs. 1,99,81,751 and in the 51 medium tractors was Rs. 7,15,756.

(c) The total area reclaimed so far is 12,68,800 acres including about 45,000 acres of Jungle Clearance.

(d) The required information is being collected from the States.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Has any land reclaimed again turned barren and uncultivable?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There has been some land in which we find the growth of *kans* a little bit. But we believe most of it is tractorable.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: How many tractors are at present lying idle or out of order for want of spare parts to repair them?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I can safely say that there is no single tractor which is idle for want of spare parts at the moment.

Shri Syed Ahmed: Are there any spare parts lying idle for want of tractors?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: What is the total amount recovered so far as rent or hire on tractors?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We have recovered Rs. 5·90 crores by way of reclamation and other charges, and a sum of Rs. 3·26 crores remains recoverable in respect of work done up to the 31st March 1954.

Shri K. K. Basu: Do we get an idea of the cost per acre of reclamation by the Central Tractor Organisation?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Originally we had contemplated that it would not exceed Rs. 52 per acre. However, it has gone up, but we are trying to reduce the cost.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: May I know what steps have been taken by Government to dispose of the unserviceable and unusable tractors?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We have made a profit of some eight lacs of rupees on the disposal of these tractors as against their book value.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: May I know whether the cost of tractor operations in Madhya Bharat has gone up beyond Rs. 60 per acre and whether the Government of Madhya Bharat, for that reason, has stopped the use of these tractors?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: This is rather a long story and it will take me a long time to explain it. The fact is that we had calculated that the price would go up, but as a result of the efficiency of the CTO, we may now be able to charge them a lesser price. The attitude of the Madhya Bharat Government is unreasonable in not allowing us to proceed.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): May I inform the hon. Member that the Madhya Bharat has agreed to continue the work when it found that our cost has gone down now?

Radio Licence Dues

***51. Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) how much money has been realised during 1954 from the Radio Licences by way of penalty for not renewing their licences within the prescribed period; and

(b) whether there are any cases which have been exempted from the fines after representations were made to the higher authorities and if so, how many?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Rs. 7,84,915 during 1953-54.

(b) Yes. No separate record is maintained for these exemptions. Approximately in ten cases surcharge has been waived on careful consideration.

TRANSPORT FACILITIES FOR NORTH BIHAR

*52. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any conference was convened at New Delhi on the 25th May, 1954 to consider the needs of North Bihar in respect of transport, movement of wagons etc.;

(b) the main features of the decisions arrived at and how far they have been implemented; and

(c) whether the quantities of coal and cement transported to North Bihar have increased after the conference?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes. On 25th May 1954, a meeting was held in the Railway Board's office with the representatives of the Bihar and the Uttar Pradesh States and of the North Eastern, Northern and Eastern Railways, to review the position in respect of movement of traffic originating on the Broad Gauge for destinations on the Metre Gauge North Eastern Railway, particularly to North Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 17.]

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार नार्थ बिहार में सीमेन्ट, कोयला, चूना और लोहे की कमी को पूरा करने के लिये पटना में डीघा घाट के पास पीपे का पुल बनाने की बात सोच रही है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री (श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री) : इन्हीं ऐसा तो विचार नहीं है, लेकिन हमने बिहार गवर्नमेंट से कहा है कि हम उन्हें सब सहूलियत देने को तैयार हैं बशर्ते कि वह नाव के जरिये और अपनी प्राइवेट एजेन्सी से कोयला वगैरह ले जाने का इन्तज़ाम करें।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : जब तक यह इन्तजाम नहीं होता तब तक केन्द्रीय सरकार नार्थ बिहार में सरकार की पंचवर्षीय योजना और उस के अन्दर होने वाले और और कामों के लिये सीमेंट, कोयला, लोहा आदि का क्या प्रबन्ध सोच रही है ?

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री : जो कान्फरेन्स रांची में हुई थी उस में बहुत सी चीजों के बारे में बात चीत हुई थी और यह फैसला हुआ कि हम ऐसे काम करेंगे जिस में कि उन की योजना के काम में कोई रुकावट नहीं आयेगी, मिसाल के लिये हम ने मंडवा डीह में खास इन्तजाम किया है। जहां पहले सिर्फ मंडवा में ६० वी० जी० वैगन काम करते थे वहां अब उन की तादाद ९० या इस से भी अधिक पहुंच गई है। हम ने तारीघाट और गाजीपुर के बीच रोपवेज बनाने का भी फैसला किया है। इस के लिये जांच पड़ताल हो रही है। इस के अलावा हम ने बिहार गवर्नमेन्ट से यह भी कहा है कि जो फैरी हमारी इस वक्त काम कर रही हैं और जो बैराजेज हैं जिस पर कि वैगन्स लाये जाते हैं वह हम पूर्व बिहार गवर्नमेन्ट को दे देंगे। हम नये बनवा लेंगे और इस के लिये ६ मील की लाइन बनाना है। इसे भी मंजूर कर लिया गया है। इस तरह से उम्मीद है कि ट्रांस्पोर्ट की कोई दिक्कत या कठिनाई नहीं पड़ेगी।

पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी : क्या इस प्रस्ताव पर सरकार ने विचार किया है कि मुकामाघाट में जो रेलवे के लिए कोयले का ट्रांशिपमेंट होता है उसका कुछ अंश पबलिक का कोयला ट्रांशिप करने के लिये भी रखने की इजाजत दी जाय ?

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री : हम अपना तो कर लें तब पबलिक का करेंगे।

TRAMCARS IN DELHI

*53. **Ch. Raghubir Singh:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government contemplate to replace the electric tramcars and trolley buses by motor vehicles in Delhi;

(b) if so, how long would it take to replace them; and

(c) what would be the approximate expenditure in this change-over?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The Delhi Road Transport Authority have decided to replace gradually all the tramcars and trolley buses by diesel or petrol buses.

(b) The programme is expected to be completed by the end of 1955-56.

(c) Rs. 12 lakhs.

Ch. Raghubir Singh: Are Government aware of the fact that due to the shortage of these buses the public are experiencing great inconvenience?

Shri Alagesan: I may inform the House that the Delhi Transport has a fleet of 260 buses. It will be augmented to 400 by the middle of 1955. Then, I think, the position will considerably ease.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether by the replacement of the tramcars by the Diesel buses the fares in the area covered now by the tramcars will remain the same as the fares of the tramcars?

Shri Alagesan: It will come up to the bus fares generally charged on the other routes.

"अपने टेलीफोन के मालिक बनिए" प्रणाली

*५४. **श्री नवल प्रभाकर** : क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार है कि "अपने टेलीफोन के मालिक बनिए" योजना बिल्कुल बन्द कर दी जाये; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब तक ऐसा करने का विचार है ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Not at present.

(b) A definite date cannot be given.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि इस योजना के अनुसार अब तक कितने टेलीफोन लगाये गये हैं ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जी हां, अब तक १७,७४८ टेलीफोन लगाये गये हैं ।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि दिल्ली में कुछ आटोमैटिक टेलीफोन लगाये गये हैं और कुछ दूसरी तरह के लगाये गये हैं और उनके माहवारी चार्जेज लिये जाते हैं ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जी हां । माहवारी चार्जेज लिये जाते हैं । और चूंकि टेलीफोनों की कमी है इसलिए कहीं कहीं मैन्युअल टेलीफोन भी लगाये गये हैं ।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि जो मैन्युअल टेलीफोन लगाये गये हैं उनमें टेलीफोन करने वालों को पांच-पांच सात-सात मिनट इन्तिजार करना पड़ता है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : अगर दुर्भाग्यवश किसी को पांच पांच मिनट तक इन्तिजार करना पड़ता है तो मैं आभारी होऊंगा अगर इसकी सूचना माननीय सदस्य मुझे या विभाग को देने की कृपा करें ।

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि स्वयं का टेलीफोन रखने से सरकार को क्या फायदा हुआ है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : फायदे का प्रश्न नहीं उठता लेकिन उससे जो आमदनी हुई है वह है ४,२६,९०,४०० ।

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : क्या कुछ घाटा भी हुआ है ?

AGRO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH

*56. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the American experts invited by the Government of India to advise on the agro-economic researches in India have submitted their reports;

(b) if so, the order in which the research works have been specified; and

(c) what is their opinion about the past research work done?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 18.]

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether they have submitted a final report or whether it is a preliminary report?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is the final report.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how long these experts stayed here and how much we had to spend on them?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I must ask for notice so far as the expenditure is concerned; but they stayed here from the 11th of April to the 16th of June, 1954.

Shri S. C. Samanta: According to their recommendations, 24 projects have been divided into 6 sections. I find that land tenure is there. May I know whether any uniformity in land tenure is being contemplated by the Central Government as zamindari abolition is going on?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Sir, this is a matter which has been suggested for investigation. I do not think it will be possible to have uniformity of land tenure in the whole of the country.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether any Indian experts were associated with these American experts in doing research work?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: They did consult the Indian experts also from time to time.

FUMIGATION OF AGRICULTURAL SEEDS

*57. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the fumigation of agricultural seeds before their export to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the number of fumigation plants that will be set up in India; and

(c) what is their estimated cost?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No.

(b) and (c). The question does not arise.

Shri A. M. Thomas: In answer to a supplementary question of mine in a previous session, the Commerce and Industry Minister stated that there was a proposal to set up a fumigating plant at Cochin. May I know whether there is no such proposal?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The question should be asked from the Minister who had given the original answer.

Shri A. M. Thomas: The Commerce and Industry Minister also stated at that time that the matter was under correspondence with the Agriculture Ministry. May I enquire—because there was a definite assurance by the Commerce and Industry Minister—if such a fumigating plant would be set up at Cochin?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That refers to the imported goods and not to the exported goods. So far as exportable seeds are concerned, it is proposed to evolve a scheme of licensing fumigation laboratories so that advantage may be taken of them.

Gosadans

*58. **Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether Government have given any directions to the State

Governments for the establishment of *gosadans* as envisaged in the First Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): *Gosadan* schemes, as envisaged in the First Five Year Plan, has been recommended to State Governments and is being implemented by them.

Shri Amjad Ali: May I know which Governments have till now established these '*gosadans*'?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Sixteen *gosadans* have been established; three in Bihar, two in U.P. one each in Bhopal, PEPSU, Vindhya Pradesh, Cutch, Tripura, Assam, Madhya Bharat, Coorg and two in Jammu and Kashmir.

Shri Amjad Ali: May I know the probable or estimated cost of a *gosadan*?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The estimated cost for the establishment of a model centre with a capacity of two thousand animals is about Rs. 50,000 non-recurring and Rs. 20,000 recurring.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि उत्तर प्रदेश में मंत्री महोदय की योजना के अनुसार कितने गोसदन खोले जाने को थे और कितने खोले गये हैं ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : खोले जाने को तो बहुत थे मगर दो खोले गये हैं जिनमें ११३ गायें हैं ।

श्री महोदय : क्या इन गोसदनों की प्रगति संतोषजनक है ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: In some places it is not so bad but, on the whole, the progress is not so rapid as we would desire.

Telephone and Telegraph Offices in Orissa

***59. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to transfer the telegraph and telephone lines and offices that fall within the Orissa State but are looked after by other circles to the control of the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Cuttack; and

(b) if so, the progress made in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is still under examination.

Shri Sanganna: When will a final decision in the matter be taken?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In view of the fact that lines run across more than one circle, there are certain difficulties which are being encountered in the matter of maintenance and as soon as these difficulties are technically removed, we shall see that they are transferred as desired.

Shri Sanganna: May I know how the people of Orissa will be affected in the matter of services etc.?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I can assure the hon. Member that there is no prejudice to the interests of the people of Orissa so far as telephone service is concerned.

Shri Sanganna: Is it not a fact that the Government of Orissa pointed out certain difficulties which are being encountered at present by the people under the existing system?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Not to my knowledge.

Wagons Position in Fatehpur Sikri Station

***60. Seth Achal Singh:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wagons are not made available at Fatehpur Sikri Station, Western Railway for loading grinding stones; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ease the situation there?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

Wagons are supplied at Fatehpur Sikri station for despatch of outward traffic including grinding stones.

(b) Does not arise.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या स्टैप लिये गये हैं ताकि वैगन्स पूरे मिल सकें ?

Shri Alagesan: As far as the month of July was concerned, the loading was 21 whereas in the previous year it was only 17.

LOSS SUFFERED BY THE CENTRAL TRACTOR ORGANISATION

*62. **Shri Bishwa Nath Roy:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the three operational seasons (1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53) Government suffered a heavy loss on account of land reclamation done by the Central Tractor Organisation; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). A brief statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 19.]

Shri Bishwa Nath Roy: May I know whether in view of the fact given in the statement the Government propose to re-organise the Central Tractor Organisation?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is being continuously re-organised and it is as a result of re-organisation that we are likely to have a profit of Rs. 15 lakhs in the year 1953-54.

Shri Bishwa Nath Roy: May I know whether for getting more work the Government propose to send some units of this Organisation to U.P. where there is about a lakh of acres of unbroken soil?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It will depend on the U.P. Government to make a proposal and ask us to do the work.

KHEDIVAL MAIL LINE

*63. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the operation of the Khedival Mail line, the leading Egyptian line, which has extended its passenger-*cum*-cargo services to India and Pakistan recently, is affecting the interests of Indian Shipping in the trade between India, Pakistan and the Mediterranean?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Not to the knowledge of Government.

ALL-INDIA FARMERS' CONFERENCE

*65. **Shri Buchhikotaiah:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of *kisan* representatives who were invited and who participated in the All-India Farmers' Conference held at Srinagar in July 1954; and

(b) whether they were elected representatives of the *kisan* organisations or nominated members of the State Governments?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). 120 representative farmers, mostly selected by the State Governments concerned, participated in the Farmers' Conference held at Srinagar on the 16th and 17th July, 1954.

Shri Buchhikotaiah: May I know what are the reasons for not inviting the All India Kisan Sabha representatives to this Conference?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We had laid down a certain procedure to which we stuck and also because we did not want to recognise every organisation as this was only a preliminary meeting.

Shri Nanadas: May I know the purpose of the Conference and the decisions arrived thereat?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The purpose of the Conference was to associate the farmers' representatives in the meeting

of the Ministers' Conference and to find out ways and means of organising the farmers in future.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know on what basis the so-called representatives of the farmers were chosen?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The State Governments were asked to nominate the representatives from their States out of the progressive cultivators in their States.

Shri Heda: Is it a fact that Government wanted to avoid *kisan* individuals or organisations which were dominated by political considerations?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: No, no. We were not contemplating any such thing. Our aim was the advancement of agriculture as an industry.

IMPORT OF SUGAR

***66. Shri Kelappan:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to import any sugar during 1954-55; and

(b) if so, what quantity?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, 7·5 lakhs tons upto December, 1954.

Shri Kelappan: May I know whether India was a party to the World Sugar Conference?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: India was represented in the Conference.

Shri Kelappan: Have we undertaken to import any definite quantity of sugar, and if so, what is that quantity?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Undertaken from whom?

Shri Kelappan: In that Conference?

Shri Kidwai: We were not a party at that Conference but we attended as observers, that is all.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: May I know what is the estimated production capacity and consumption capacity of sugar in the country?

Shri Kidwai: The consumption during controlled distribution was about 10 to 12 lakh tons, but since sugar has been made free, the consumption has gone up. It is estimated that this year's consumption is going to be 18 lakh tons.

खली के पौष्टिक तत्व

***६७. डा० सत्यवादी** : क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय तिलहन समिति ने विभिन्न बीजों की खली के पौष्टिक तत्व मालूम करने के काम में कहां तक प्रगति की है ;

(ख) क्या इस गवेषणा के परिणामों का सारांश पटल पर रखा जायेगा; और

(ग) इस योजना को लागू करने में अब तक कितना खर्च हुआ है ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) to (c). The material is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House, as soon as it is ready.

DABOK AERODROME

***68. Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in the construction of an aerodrome at Dabok in Rajasthan; and

(b) when it is likely to be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Detailed site and contour surveys have been prepared and the Rajasthan Government requested to acquire urgently the extent of area required for the construction of the aerodrome.

(b) The project will be completed in about 18 months after the land has been acquired and made available.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: May I know whether it will be a regular service station, and if so, to which route it will be connected? Also, what amount of money is likely to be spent over it?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is too early to say that. The decision will rest with the Indian Airlines Corporation who will keep in view the traffic trends and other relevant factors.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: May I know the names of those aerodromes that have been connected with this aerodrome and have gone into operation?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The names of those are Chandigarh, Kandla and Haldwani, but none of them has been completed.

DAVANGERE AERODROME

*69. **Shri N. Rachiah:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new aerodrome is being constructed at Davangere in Mysore State; and

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost of construction of the said aerodrome?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No aerodrome is being constructed at Davangere by the Central Government. The Mysore Government have, however, recently constructed an airstrip there.

(b) No information is available with the Central Government. If the Hon. Member so desires it may be called for from the State Government.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

*70. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of matriculates, under-graduates and graduates who were registered in the Employment Exchanges from the 1st January to the 31st July, 1954; and

(b) the number of vacancies notified to the Employment Exchanges during the above period, categorywise?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 20.]

Shri D. C. Sharma: From the statement it appears that our unemployment problem is very much under control because out of 1,80,000 people who applied, 1,18,000 people have been provided with employment. Is it not a fact that these figures are not such as can be relied upon on a national basis?

Mr. Speaker: On what basis?

Shri D. C. Sharma: Sir, from the statement that is given I find that only about 1,75,000 persons wanted employment and out of them 1,18,000 persons have been given employment. Therefore, it seems that the employment situation is improving. But, I want to know if these figures are reliable so far as the whole country is concerned, or whether these figures relate only to a few sectors of employment?

Shri V. V. Giri: That is the information we have at our disposal. We cannot say that it is absolutely reliable but it is reliable to some extent.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I do not follow what the hon. Minister said.

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. Minister has not understood the first part of the question to which he has given reply. The hon. Member wants to know whether these figures cover all the possible avenues of employment, or only certain sections. That was his first question.

Shri V. V. Giri: It may not cover all the sectors, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The figures that are given relate to people who apply to the Employment Exchanges and get themselves registered; is that so?

Shri V. V. Giri: I can give a statement showing registration of persons effected by Employment Exchanges in respect of each quarter since January 1953 to 1954. I have detailed figures here. I shall hand over that statement to my hon. friend and thereafter if he

likes to put more questions I shall be very glad to answer.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how it is that all those persons who want employment do not go to the Employment Exchanges which are meant to do them service?

Shri V. V. Giri: They must have other influences through which they could get employment.

Shri Bansal: May I know whether this statement reflects the recent state of affairs in the country as far as the employment question goes? I think that was the purport of the question of Shri Sharma also.

Mr. Speaker: And, therefore, I put it to the Minister as to whether the figures that he gave only include such of the unemployed as register themselves with the Employment Exchanges.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I do not understand why such statements are prepared if they are not reliable.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether there has been any decrease in registration recently due to the fact that persons who go there and get themselves registered do not get employment through the Exchanges for a considerable period?

Shri V. V. Giri: That is not a correct statement, and out of those who apply about ten to twenty per cent. are getting immediate employment.

गोबर की गैस

*७१. **श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी :** क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सरकार ने बड़े पैमाने पर गोबर से गैस बनाने के सम्बन्ध में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की है ;

(ख) यह गैस बनाने के लिए जिन कल-पुर्जों की जरूरत होती है, उनके निर्माण की क्या व्यवस्था की जा रही है; और

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(ग) यह निर्माण कब प्रारम्भ होने की आशा है ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Experiments to produce gas on a small scale are undertaken at the I.A.R.I. After the plant has proved successful and economic, the design will be given to the manufacturing concern for production of the plant on a large scale.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता था कि इस गोबर से गैस निकालने वाले प्लान्ट का सम्भावित मूल्य क्या होगा और क्या इस को औसत दर्जे का किसान इस्तेमाल करके फायदा उठा सकता है ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : जी हां, यह अलग अलग कीमत के हैं, २५० रुपये से लेकर वह दस, पन्द्रह हजार रुपये तक जा सकते हैं जिनको छोटी म्युनिसपैल्टीज इस्तेमाल कर सकती हैं ।

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Have the Government considered the effect of encouraging production of gas on the use of cow-dung for manureal purposes?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Both gas as well as manure are produced.

Development of Air Services in Nepal

*72. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Nepal has approached the Government of India for helping Nepal to set up internal air services;

(b) if so, what is the nature of the scheme for which aid has been sought by Nepal;

(c) whether any agreement in this regard has been concluded; and

(d) what is the nature of aid that India may give?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (d). Discussions are in progress between the two Governments on the subject of air services in Nepal. I regret I am not in a position to give any details about the discussions at this stage.

Shri Jaipal Singh: When did the discussions begin? In which month did they begin?

Shri Raj Bahadur: They started sometime towards the beginning of this year.

Shri Jaipal Singh: How many conferences have been held, either in Nepal or in India, so far?

Shri Raj Bahadur: One.

THEFT OF INSURED PARCELS

*73. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether two insured parcels addressed to a Bank in Kanpur and containing currency notes were removed from the Kanpur Post Office sometime in June, 1954; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made and the culprits traced?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Six insured parcels, addressed to the Central Bank, Kanpur and one insured parcel, addressed to the Hindustan Commercial Bank, Kanpur, alleged to have contained currency notes, were shown by the postman as delivered but the addressees have disowned receipt.

(b) Police enquiries are in progress, culprits not yet traced.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What was the value of those parcels of currency notes?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The six parcels, which were to be delivered to Messrs. Central Bank of India, are reported to have contained currency notes to the aggregate value of Rs. 1,27,000, but they were only insured for Rs. 600. The other parcel addressed to Messrs. Hindustan Commercial Bank, was alleged to have contained currency notes of the value of Rs. 25,000.

LIGHTING IN TRAINS

*74. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that often there are either no lights at all or there are only dim lights in the compartments of Delhi Mail and other trains running between Ahmedabad and Delhi on the metre gauge section of the Western Railway;

(b) whether it is a fact that complaints about the state of affairs mentioned in part (a) above have often been made to the Railway authorities; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government are taking to remedy these complaints?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Generally speaking the Lighting arrangements are satisfactory, although there have been cases reported of dim lights in certain compartments.

(c) (i) Generators of low capacity are being replaced by those of higher capacity.

(ii) More coaches are being equipped with generators.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether it is a fact that the President of the Railway Passengers' Association, Ahmedabad and fifteen other passengers travelling by Delhi Mail lodged a complaint with the conductor of the train at 10 P.M. on 20th June 1954 that several coaches were not lighted, including the ladies' coaches?

Shri Alagesan: There was a complaint from the Railway Passengers' Association and others.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether there are any checks to see that there are proper lights in these coaches?

Shri Alagesan: I may inform the hon. Member that a drive is now being made to fit all the coaches, which are without generators, with generators and also to replace low capacity generators with high capacity generators.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Is it a fact that sometimes no lights or dim lights are given to facilitate the unburdening of the loads of passengers?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

MEDICO-SOCIAL WORKERS

*75. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced the new system of employment of medico-social workers in Medical College Hospitals; and

(b) how many States have agreed to adopt the same?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) Four States have so far agreed to join the scheme-namely, Bombay, West Bengal. Madhya Bharat and Saurashtra.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know whether there is any response in the medical colleges for this system of employment?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes. The Government of India thought that this scheme was important enough to put in the Five Year Plan and we have set aside a sum of Rs. 3·2 lakhs to help the States. Unfortunately, the response from the States has not been as good as I expected it to be.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know whether any payment is made to these workers towards the services they discharge, and if so, their scales of pay and the qualifications they are required to possess to make themselves fit for this appointment?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: In the case of medico-social workers, the minimum qualifications are the diploma that they get from the three schools of social service that exist in India, one in Madras, one in Bombay and one in Delhi. The scales of pay have to be settled by the States themselves, but I may say, speaking for myself in Delhi, that we give up to Rs. 250 a month.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how many training centres have been opened for the training of medico-social workers ?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have just said that there are three centres, one in Bombay, one in Madras and one in Delhi.

SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNT

*76. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of allowing more than one withdrawal in a week from the Postal Savings Bank Accounts has been decided; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the limit of deposits?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes. A notification will be issued shortly.

(b) There is no proposal at present to raise the maximum limit of deposit in Post Office Savings Bank.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether this facility will be extended to all the post offices or only to a select few?

Shri Raj Bahadur: To all post offices.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any calculation has been made of the extra expenditure involved in this?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That will be very difficult to say because in post office work, while calculating expenditure, we do take note of the transactions and perhaps very remotely the expenditure may be increased slightly.

SPICES ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

*78. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted the recommendations of the Spices Enquiry Committee; and

(b) if so, the amount Government propose to spend on the development, production and marketing of spices during the remaining two years of the Plan and also during the course of the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 21 lakhs for the remaining period of the present Five Year Plan. For the Second Five Year Plan, decision will be taken in due course in the light of experience gained during the current Plan period.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know how many additional research stations are going to be opened by Government to provide for scientific aid to these industries?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I would require notice of the question. They are yet fully to be determined.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether there is a separate fund for marketing purposes? May I also know what positive steps Government propose to take to organise a better marketing system for the spices?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The provision that Government has made for marketing is fully utilised for that purpose alone. The provision that we are trying to make so far as spices are concerned, is considered adequate.

FOREIGN BULLS

*79. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to import bulls from foreign countries for launching a new scientific cattle breeding scheme;

(b) the number of bulls that are going to be imported;

(c) whether these bulls have arrived in India; and

(d) if not, when they are expected to arrive?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, but from America.

(b) Sixteen

(c) No.

(d) Six bulls about the middle of September, 1954, and the rest some time later.

Shri K. P. Sinha: How is it proposed to distribute them in the country?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We have got a proposal for their distribution and this shows how they are going to be utilised. Four of them are going to be utilised by the I.C.A.R. and so on and so forth by various other institutions.

NUTRITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*80. **Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nutrition Advisory Committee of the Indian Council of Medical Research has decided to hold a sample survey on the nutritional condition of the infants and children of the country; and

(b) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has recommended that mid-day meal programmes for school children should form an integral part of the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) Such a recommendation has been made.

चीनी के लाभ में हिस्सा

*८१. श्री आर० एन० सिंह : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नैनीताल में २८ जून, १९५४ को चीनी और गन्ने के सम्बन्ध में हुए त्रिदलीय

सम्मेलन में किन किन संस्थाओं के प्रतिनिधि सम्मिलित हुए थे ;

(ख) ये प्रतिनिधि इन संस्थाओं ने चुन कर भेजे थे या सरकार द्वारा नामनिर्देशित किए गए थे;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि सम्मेलन ने यह तय किया कि मिल मालिक १९५२ तथा १९५३ में चीनी में हुए लाभ में से गन्ना उत्पादकों को हिस्सा देंगे; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो गन्ना उत्पादकों को लाभ का कितने प्रतिशत भाग दिया जायगा ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The required information is awaited from the U.P. Government which had convened the said Conference.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The matter is still under consideration.

श्री आर० एन० सिंह : क्या यह सत्य है कि जिस संघ ने इस शुगर केन के प्रश्न को उठाया था उस किसान पंचायत जैसे मुख्य संघ को छोड़ दिया गया है और सिर्फ व्यक्तिगत आदमियों को इस काम के लिये बुला लिया गया ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : जैसा मैं ने जवाब में कहा है यू० पी० गवर्नमेन्ट ने कान्फरेन्स बुलाई थी, वह जानें क्या बात है ।

श्री आर० एन० सिंह : उस में हमारे कृषि मंत्री भी मौजूद थे, क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि क्या यह सही नहीं है ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The *Krishi Mantri* was not present there.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): The Conference was convened by the Uttar Pradesh Government, and as the country was interested in this, I also went there.

LAHORE-AMRITSAR RAIL LINK

***83. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether the plan to resume the rail link between the two Punjabs through the Amritsar—Lahore route has been finalised?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The plan to resume passenger train service between Amritsar and Lahore has been finalized, but it will start after arrangements for Customs and Police *check posts* at the border railway stations have been completed.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

ACCIDENT TO MILITARY SPECIAL TRAINS

S.N.Q. 1. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Military Special train was involved in an accident between Bhawani Mandi and Kurlasi on the Ratlam-Kotah Section of the Western Railway on the night of 17th-18th August, 1954;

(b) if so, the causes of the accident;

(c) the number of persons killed and the number of persons injured as a result of this accident;

(d) the number of injured persons still lying in the hospital; and

(e) the number of persons who succumbed to their injuries in the hospital?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) A Military Personnel special P/78 which left Ujjain for Pathankot on 17th August 1954 met with an accident between Kurlasi and Bhawani Mandi stations on the Kotah-Ratlam single line Broad Gauge section of the Western Railway at 23·55 hrs. on 17th August 1954. Nine wagons next to the engine derailed of which 7 wagons

capsized. Three Military coaches next to the wagons also capsized.

(b) The cause of the accident is under investigation by the Government Inspector of Railways who has commenced his inquiry at Shamgarh on 20th August 1954.

(c) The position on 20th August 1954 in respect of casualties is as follows:—

(i) Number of persons killed.	11, including one of the seriously injured who died on way to the hospital and another who died in the hospital.
(ii) Number of persons seriously injured.	8, excluding 2 who died as referred to above
(iii) Number of persons slightly injured.	38

(d) and (e). Twenty-seven injured persons including 8 seriously injured were admitted into Kotah Military hospital. Of these, one died and at 21 hours on 18th August 1954, 17 were removed by air in a Military dakota plane to Delhi Military hospital. The balance of 9 are in the Kotah Military hospital and were to be removed by air in a Military dakota plane at 16·00 hours on 20th August 1954.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know when the Government Inspector of Railways, about whom the hon. Deputy Minister said that he is holding an enquiry, will submit the report of the enquiry?

Shri Alagesan: Generally this is done very quickly. He has commenced it on the 20th August and we are expecting the report.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whehter through-service has been resumed on that line?

Shri Alagesan: Not yet.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: When is it likely to be resumed? By what time?

Shri Alagesan: It may take some more time.

Shri N. L. Joshi: May I know whether the bridge had undergone repairs and whether sufficient precautions were taken to see that no accidents take place?

Shri Alagesan: All this, we will be able to know after the report of the enquiry is received.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know if no departmental enquiry was held to ascertain the cause of the accident. The Government Inspector of Railways belongs to the Communications Ministry; have not Railways themselves conducted any enquiry?

Shri Alagesan: It is the Government Inspector of Railways who holds enquiry into all these things.

Shri Gidwani: May I know whether any compensation has been given to those who have been killed?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid this question is premature. Let the causes of the accident be ascertained and after they are ascertained, then of course, the liability of the Railways can be fixed, and not till then. The hon. Member seems to assume that the Government and the Railways are responsible even for accidents. That is not the case. Unless some element of negligence, to my mind, is there, the question of liability cannot arise.

Floods

Mr. Speaker: There are two more short notice questions, regarding floods. One is by Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy and a number of other Members—all those are bracketed—and the other is by Shri A. P. Sinha. I think both these questions can be put one after the other and the hon. Minister may answer them together.

S.N.Q. 2. Shri A. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unprecedented floods have visited the whole of North Bihar causing wide and

heavy damage to roads including National Highways, railway tracks, telegraph wires and poles, crops and homesteads;

(b) if so, the extent of the damages caused; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to meet this dreadful calamity stating also the nature and the amount of relief rendered?

S.N.Q. 3. Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Will the **Minister of Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a great damage has been caused to the lives and properties of people, National Highways, Railway Tracks, etc., as a result of flood havoc in Bihar, West Bengal, Assam and the Punjab;

(b) if so, whether any assessment of the damage has been made by Government;

(c) the measures that have been taken by Government to render relief to the sufferers; and

(d) whether any enquiry committee will be set up to enquire into the devastation caused by floods and to suggest long-term remedies to prevent such havoc in future?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): The question put by Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy and parts (a) and (b) of the question put by Shri A. P. Sinha would be covered by a statement* which the hon. Home Minister is going to make. The information I can supply is as follows:

The Minister of Home Affairs is making a statement today regarding the general flood situation in the country and the extent of damage caused by the floods.

The Government of India have agreed to give the following assistance to Bihar Government, who have approached in this behalf:

(i) To issue wheat from Central Stocks at a concessional rate of Rs. 12 per maund, against the issue price of Rs. 14/8/- per maund, for sale in flood-affected areas;

(ii) to Bihar Government issuing rice from their own stocks for sale at a subsidised rate of Rs. 15 per maund, *i.e.*, Rs. 4 per maund below the economic cost, the Centre bearing half the subsidy;

(iii) to sanction a grant to State Government equal to 50 per cent. of the Expenditure on *Gratuitous Relief* up to the first two crores and 75 per cent. thereafter, which will include subsidy given under items (i) and (ii) above;

(iv) the Government of India is also trying to facilitate Bihar Government to enable it to advance loans to the sufferers.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether the Minister can give us an idea as to how much amount of money has been so far spent by the Central Government on relief?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): The Government of India had given this authority to the Bihar Government and they will know the figure when they receive the accounts.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: I am asking this question: what is the total amount spent over these areas—Bihar and other areas?

Mr. Speaker: Has he not given the answer? The amount sanctioned is about Rs. 2 crores and odd. It is to be spent through the Bihar Government and they will recoup.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: What about other States?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I can mention some figures. The total amount spent or proposed to be spent for gratuitous relief in the three States is estimated to be as follows: Bihar—Rs. 158·05 lakhs;

*Printed in Part II Debate of the 24th August 1954.

West Bengal—Rs 4 lakhs plus 500 maunds of rice;

Assam—Rs. 2·68 lakhs.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether the Minister can give us information regarding the total extent of territory and the number of people involved as a result of these floods?

Mr. Speaker: He may await the statement. Only in respect of the points he has answered, supplementaries can be put. Otherwise, he will get the information from the statement which the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is going to make.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: May I know whether any representation by U.P. Government regarding the flood-affected areas has been received with similar request for help as has been sent to Bihar and other States?

Shri Kidwai: We have not yet received a complete report from the U.P. Government.

Shri A. P. Sinha: Is the Government aware that due to drought in 1950-51 and the floods in 1953—last year—the Government of Bihar had to spend Rs. 14 crores on relief measures?

Shri Kidwai: The Government of Bihar had to spend a large amount of money on relief in the previous years. The hon. Member himself must have noticed the change that has been made in our help. Up to last year as a rule, we agreed to pay 50 per cent., subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 48 lakhs, in regard to gratuitous relief: that is, we would not pay more than Rs. 48 lakhs. But this year the Government of India have agreed to pay 50 per cent. up to the extent of Rs. 2 crores. That is, they will pay Rs. 1 crores and in regard to whatever money is spent over and above Rs. 2 crores, the Government of India will pay 75 per cent. Therefore, we have gone much further than we had done in the previous years.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The hon. Minister for Food and Agriculture in reply to the first supplementary said that the Government of India have authorised the Government of Bihar to make expenditure. May I know whether the Government of India have authorised the Government of Bihar to make any amount of expenditure which this emergency requires?

Shri Kidwai: We have not this time put any limit—I have explained that.

Mr. Speaker: I think we had better hear the statement of the hon. Home Minister. I find so many hon. Members anxious to put questions which are likely to be disjointed. It is better that they hear the statement of the hon. Minister in full—which I believe is likely to be fairly long—and then study it.

Shri Amjad Ali: The hon. Mr. Nanda made an aerial survey of Assam.....

Mr. Speaker: That is known.

Shri Amjad Ali: Is he prepared to make a statement?

Mr. Speaker: Let us first hear the statement of the Home Minister. It is no use confounding issues.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

BURMA RICE

***40. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what quantity of rice purchased from Burma has been received so far; and

(b) to which States this has been allocated?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Upto 31st July, 1954, about 1·74 lakh tons of Burma rice have been received in India.

(b) This rice has been allocated as follows:

(1) Travancore-Cochin State	48,839 tons
(2) Defence	14,893 ,,
(3) Andamans	200 ,,
(4) Collieries	1,000 ,,
(5) Railway personnel at Goa	60 ,,

A quantity of 109,091 tons has been kept in Central Reserve Depots.

MISUSE OF TELEPRINTERS

*44. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry has been made into the allegations contained in an open letter to him about the misuse of teleprinter services; and

(b) if so, the result of the inquiry?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) The monitoring has confirmed the observations of the P. & T. Department that the press circuits were to a certain extent misused by certain News Agencies. Suitable action to ensure the proper use of the press circuits has been taken.

FLOOD RELIEF IN TRIPURA

*55. **Shri Biren Dutt:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any relief has been given to the flood-affected peasants of Tripura; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, to the extent of Rs. 23,500.

ROADS IN TRIPURA

*61. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many bridges on the motorable roads were washed away and damaged in Tripura by the floods during June, 1954;

(b) if so, the number of bridges damaged;

(c) the arrangements that have been made to restore communication and transport facilities; and

(d) the steps taken to avoid recurrence of such happenings?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). One bridge and one culvert were washed away and nine bridges and culverts suffered minor damage.

(c) Communication and transport facilities have been maintained by arranging diversions and constructing temporary culverts.

(d) Permanent and semi-permanent bridges are being constructed wherever possible.

FERTILIZERS

*64. { **Shri Ajit Singh:** / **Shri Balakrishna:**

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether sufficient quantity of fertilisers are available at present for supply to the agriculturists in India;

(b) whether the agriculturists have been fully educated in regard to their proper use; and

(c) what is the total output of fertilisers within the country *vis-a-vis* its annual requirements?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 21.]

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTES

*77. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of candidates who have undergone the course of technical training for adult civilians in various technical trades during the last three years and the nature of training imparted to them; and

(b) the number who have obtained the requisite diploma?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) 11,211; the Technical training has been imparted in engineering and building trades only. The period of training prescribed for technical

trades was 2 years, of which 18 months were to be spent in the Training Centres and the remaining 6 months on production/professional work in an industrial establishment or in the Centre itself. On completion of training the trainees were trade tested by a Board of examiners and a diploma was awarded to the successful trainees.

(b) 10,956.

LABOUR WELFARE IN MICA INDUSTRY

*82. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that labour employed in the Mica Industry in the country are not properly housed?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): Government are aware that the housing conditions of labour employed in mica industry are not satisfactory. In order to meet the situation a Subsidised Housing Scheme for workers in mica mines in Bihar was sanctioned in June 1953. As the response to this scheme was not satisfactory it has been decided to liberalise it on the lines of the Industrial Housing Scheme. It has also been decided to extend the scheme to mica mines in the states of Andhra, Rajasthan and Ajmer. As regards workers in mica factories, they are covered by the Industrial Housing Scheme.

INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL

*84. **Shri S. N. Das:**
Shri Jethalal Joshi:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Wheat Council has called upon or is likely to call upon India to purchase the quantity of one million tons of wheat to which India is committed under the International Wheat Agreement; and

(b) the prevailing prices of wheat at important centres in India and how they compare with the prices in exporting countries?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) So far no such call has been made. It cannot be said whether any such call will be made in future.

(b) The prevailing prices of wheat at the important centres in India range from Rs. 12 to Rs. 13 per maund while those in Australia and Canada are slightly less. In U.S.A. they are about the same as in India.

INDIAN FARMING

18. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of copies of the Monthly "Indian Farming" (i) printed (ii) subscribed for and (iii) distributed free;

(b) the over-all amount spent on this Journal in 1953-54; and

(c) the amount realised by way of advertisement charges from (i) foreign-owned companies and (ii) the Indian companies?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) (i) Total number of copies printed every month 5,000.

(ii) Number of copies subscribed for 2,544.

(iii) Number of copies distributed on free and exchange basis 1,260.

(b) Overall amount spent during 1953-54 Rs. 1,00,000.

(c) The amounts realised by way of advertisement charges during the year 1953-54 are as follows:

1. Foreign Companies Rs. 26,860.
2. Indian Companies Rs. 13,550.

DENITRATION OF CULTIVABLE SOIL

19. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any precise information about the extent of impoverishment of cultivable soil by the growth of weed plants;

(b) the names of the important plants which cause denitration of soil; and

(c) whether any study has been made of the growth and spread of weeds like Carthamus Oxyacantha in new regions and what, if any, are the control measures worked out?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) No precise information is available on an All-India basis regarding the extent of impoverishment of cultivable soil caused by the growth of weeds. From small scale experiments conducted at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, it has been estimated that weeds are responsible for the reduction of yield in wheat to the extent of 25 to 30 per cent.

(b) All plants, during their growth remove nitrogen from the soil. Crops like sugarcane, sorghum, maize, toria and sarson generally make heavier demand of soil nitrogen. The leguminous plants also remove nitrogen but a small proportion is returned to the soil from their roots where atmospheric nitrogen as fixed by the help of bacteria in the root nodules.

(c) Some work has been done on the growth, and spread of pohli (Carthamus oxyacantha) on the new land of Delhi villages. Spraying the plants with modern hormonal weedicide like 2,4-D*, 2,4,5-T and M.C.P.A.* just before flowering has been found to destroy the plants completely.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has prepared a model scheme for Research on eradication of weeds by the application of Synthetic weedicides of the hormone type. But it is too early to expect any tangible result at this stage.

*2,4.D=Dichlorophenoxy-acetic acid.

M.C.P.A.=methyl-chloro-phenoxy-acetic acid.

2,4,5-T=2,4,5-trichloro-phenoxy-acetic acid.

PRODUCTION OF POMEGRANATE FRUIT

20. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated annual production of pomegranate fruit in India;

(b) the percentage of this fruit that is destroyed before it ripens by the larvae of the pest Virachola isocrates (the *annar* butterfly);

(c) the measures taken, if any, in fighting this pest and the measure of success achieved during the years from 1950 to 1954; and

(d) the estimated quantity of fruits destroyed by this pest in (i) psidium guajava and (ii) Citrus aurantium?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) to (d). A brief statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 22.]

LAC INDUSTRY

21. Dr. Satyawadi: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing:

(a) the progress made in the investigation in different branches of lac cultivation during the year 1953-54; and

(b) the progress made, if any, in promoting the lac industry in the State of Punjab during 1953-54?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). A note stating the position is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 23.]

वायरलेस ट्रांसमिटर्ज की बरामदगी

२२. श्री मगन लाल बागड़ी : क्या **संचार** मंत्री १६ दिसम्बर, १९५३ को पूछे गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ९९४ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि वायरलेस ट्रांसमिटर्ज के अवैध रूप से चलाए जाने के सम्बन्ध में की गई जांच का क्या फल निकला ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): A statement furnishing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 24.]

CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR IN PUNJAB

23. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total consumption of sugar in the Punjab during 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Figures of actual consumption of sugar in the Punjab are not available, but on the basis of the figures of despatches reported by the sugar factories, the total quantity of sugar made available to the State of Punjab during the years 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54 was as under:

1951-52	76,464 tons
1952-53	87,281 ,,
1953-54 (upto 31-7-54) ..	78,700 ,,

CENTRAL OR U. N. ASSISTANCE TO THE PUNJAB

24. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state whether any assistance has been given to the State of Punjab by the Central Government or the United Nations for the development of child welfare and maternity programmes during 1952-53 and 1953-54?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): No assistance was given by the Government of India to the State of Punjab for the development of child welfare and maternity programmes during 1952-53 and 1953-54.

A statement showing the supplies and equipment obtained from United Nations Children's Fund for the State of Punjab for this purpose is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 25.]

PHONOGRAM

25. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the names of places in Punjab where the phonogram system has been introduced?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The names of places in Punjab where the phonogram System is available are given below:

1. Ambala City C.O.
2. Ambala C.T.O.
3. Amritsar C.T.O.
4. Bhatinda D.T.O.
5. Chandigarh D.T.O.
6. Ferozepur D.T.O.
7. Faridabad C.O.
8. Hoshiarpur D.T.O.
9. Jullundur D.T.O.
10. Jagadhri C.O.
11. Ludhiana D.T.O.
12. Nangal D.T.O.
13. Simla C.T.O.
14. Yamuna Nagar C.O.

COLOMBO TECHNICAL COOPERATION SCHEME

26. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of the hospitals which have so far received aid in terms of money or equipment under the Colombo Plan Technical Co-operation Scheme; and

(b) the total amount of aid received by them?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No hospital has received aid in terms of money under the Colombo Plan. Only the Irwin Hospital, Delhi has so far received aid in the form of equipment.

(b) The approximate value of the equipment received by the Irwin Hospital, Delhi, is £556.

PROCUREMENT OF LOCOMOTIVES AND WAGONS

27. Shri Gidwani: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the decisions arrived at in the meeting of the Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee of the Western Railway held in Bombay on

the 29th May, 1954 regarding the procurement of locomotives and wagons; and

(b) what other decisions were taken?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). A copy of the Minutes of the meeting indicating the subjects discussed and their disposal is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in the Library. *See* No. S-250/54.]

FOOD POSITION

28. Shri S. N. Das: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the food situation in India at present giving figures of production, imports and the position in the deficit States;

(b) the extent of fall in prices of food grains recorded in important centres of the country; and

(c) the quantity of food grains, specially rice and wheat flour, exported during the last six months?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Except for certain parts in the country, where the recent floods have caused some hardship, the general food situation in the country can be described as quite satisfactory.

The production of cereals during 1953-54 is estimated to have reached an all-time record. It is expected that the production this year would be about 55·5 million tons, which is 7½ million tons more than that of 1952-53.

There is no need to import rice this year for meeting consumers' requirements. Imports from Burma now being made are intended only to build up a reserve.

From 1st January to 31st July, 1954, 62 thousand tons of wheat, 196 thousand tons of rice and 8 thousand tons of other food grains or total 266 thousand tons were imported against 1,582 thousand tons imported during the corresponding period in 1953 and 3,100 thousand tons in 1952.

The easy food supply position has enabled the Government to decontrol rice and coarse grains completely, and to form two wheat zones. This has resulted in visible narrowing down of the disparity in prices between surplus and deficit areas and prices of foodgrains in the deficit States this year are significantly lower than those in the previous years.

(b) On the basis of information available, the fall in prices of foodgrains between the beginning of January and the middle of the July, 1954 was as follows:

Rice 3 per cent. at Nowgong in Assam to 31 per cent. at Amlapuram in Andhra.

Jowar 8 per cent. at Kurnool in Andhra to 34 per cent. at Bharatpur in Rajasthan.

Bajra 8 per cent. at Nagpur in Madhya Pradesh to 30 per cent. at Mettupalyam in Madras, and Bharatpur in Rajasthan.

Maize 10 per cent. at Hoshiarpur in Punjab to 33 per cent. at Chindwara in Madhya Pradesh.

Wheat 12 per cent. at Mandsaur in Madhya Bharat to 36 per cent. at Dhanduka in Bombay.

(c) No foodgrains have been exported out of India upto 31st of July, 1954 and only 1,125 tons of wheat-flour was exported during the period January to June, 1954.

ADVANCED TRAINING OF RAILWAY TECHNICIANS

29. Sardar A. S. Saigal: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether technicians from the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works have been sent for advanced training to the North British Locomotive Company of Glasgow;

(b) the number of technicians so sent;

(c) whether it is proposed to send some more technicians also in the future; and

(d) the expenditure that will be incurred by Government on the training of these technicians?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) 58.

(c) No.

(d) Approximate expenditure on technicians now under training will be Rs. 82,000.

TOURIST STATISTICS

30. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state the total income derived from the foreign tourists traffic during the year 1953?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): An estimate of the total income derived from foreign tourist traffic for 1953 is not available as yet.

गन्ना

३१. श्री आर० एन० सिंह : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री १० मई, १९५४ को पूछे गए अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ५०७ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि १९५२-५३ की तुलना में १९५३-५४ में गन्ना पेरने की अवधि कम किए जाने के क्या कारण थे ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): The decrease in crushing period during 1953-54 season as compared to that during 1952-53, was due to the decline in the availability of sugarcane caused by a fall both in the area and production of sugarcane. The fall in acreage was due mainly to the low prices of gur at the sowing time. The fall in production of cane was also due, apart from reduction in area, to scarcity of rain and inadequate supply of water at the irrigation sources in certain areas. The crop in East U.P. and North Bihar was considerably damaged by floods.

LOCOMOTIVES FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

32. { Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: / Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of locomotives for which orders have been placed with the different countries but which have not been received so far;

(b) the number of locomotives, their sizes, the names of the countries from where they have been ordered;

(c) when they are expected to be delivered in India;

(d) how many such locomotives are to be manufactured in India itself; and

(e) what is the cost per locomotive of those imported and of those manufactured in India?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (e). A statement giving the required information is attached herewith. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 26.]

POSTAL LIFE INSURANCE

33. Shri Bahadur Singh: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of business completed under the Postal Life Insurance Scheme during 1953-54; and

(b) the amount of premia collected during 1952-53 and 1953-54 and the commission paid to the agents?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). During the year 1953-54, 13,559 new policies of the value of Rs. 3,26,66,200 were issued.

The amount of premia realised was Rs. 92,55,180 for 1952-53 and Rs. 99,63,115 for 1953-54. No agents are employed on Postal Life Insurance work.

MASS X-RAY OF CENTRAL SECRETARIAT EMPLOYEES

34. Shri Ajit Singh: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Secretariat employees were "mass X-rayed" for the detection of any tuberculosis cases;

(b) if so, the number of cases detected and the action taken to deal with such cases; and

(c) the total amount reimbursed by Government on treatment of tuberculosis in respect of Government servants and their families during 1953?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) Out of a total number of 42,583 persons examined by mass miniature radiography in 1953 and the first 7 months of 1954, the number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis needing treatment was 166. Their respective Offices were asked by the New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre to arrange for their treatment and hospitalization in accordance with Medical Attendance Rules. Pending hospitalization, suitable out-patient treatment was given to them by the New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre.

(c) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

CATERING IN TRAINS

35. Shri Achuthan: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised the present system of catering in passenger trains in India and if so, what are its main features;

(b) whether any improvement consistent with South Indian tastes has been effected in the Grand Trunk Express catering;

(c) whether there will be any reduction in the rates for food provided in the dining car;

(d) whether Government have examined the question of adopting the tender system for awarding catering contracts in trains; and

(e) if so, what is the accepted view of Government in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No Sir, but the matter in its various aspect is under consideration by a special Committee who have already reached certain tentative conclusions, for example, the standardisation of menu etc.

(b) Certain South Indian dishes and full South Indian meals are offered on this train in the dining cars running between Delhi and Balarshah.

(c) and (d). These are under consideration by the Committee referred to in the reply to part (a).

(e) This will depend on the report of the Committee referred to but the policy so far has been to prefer the licensing system to the tender system.

INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNALS

36. Shri K. K. Basu: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of awards given by the Tribunal set up by the Central Government under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, with special reference to West Bengal during 1951, 1952 and 1953;

(b) the number of cases in which the awards were not implemented;

(c) the names of the parties which were at fault; and

(d) the number of prosecutions that were launched against such defaulting parties?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) 1951—9, 1952—3, 1953—7.

(b) No case of non-implementation of the awards was reported to Government.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

केन्द्रीय भूमि सुधार समिति

३७. **डा० सत्यवादी** : क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय भूमि सुधार समिति ने अब तक कितना काम किया है ;

(ख) क्या समिति ने केन्द्रीय या राज्य सरकारों को कोई सुझाव दिए हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या इन सुझावों का सारांश पटल पर रखा जायेगा ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) to (c). Since the inception of the Committee in May, 1953, the Central Committee for Land Reforms have considered and advised on land reforms proposals of PEPSU Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Mysore at various stages. A summary of suggestions made by the Central Committee for Land Reforms on these proposal is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 27.]

VILLAGE LEVEL WORKERS

38. Shri Gadilingana Gowd: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of village level workers trained in the Extension Training Centre, Peddepuram of East Godavary District in the Andhra State upto the 31st May, 1954;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have opened a second training centre in that State;

(c) if so, the location of the new centre; and

(d) the procedure adopted for selection of the village level workers?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Ninety-eight Village Level Workers have been trained upto 31st May 1954.

(b) A proposal to convert the existing single-shift Training Centre into a double shift Centre and to establish a new single shift Centre is under consideration.

(c) The new Centre is proposed to be located at Gopannapalam in West Godavari District.

(d) The candidates are selected by a Committee set up by the State Government for the purpose.

चीनी में लाभ

४०. **श्री आर० एन० सिंह**: क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) चीनी मिलों ने १९५३ के मौसम में अनुमानत: कितना लाभ कमाया; और

(ख) प्रत्येक राज्य में विभिन्न चीनी मिलों को अलग अलग कितनी हानि या लाभ हुआ ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). The required information is being collected from Sugar Mills and will be laid on the Table of the House.

DOCK WORKERS

41. Shri Ramananda Das: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of registered Dock Workers in the Docks of

(i) Calcutta;

(ii) Bombay and

(iii) Madras; and

(b) the average tonnage of cargo handled annually in each of the above ports?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) and (b). The total number of registered dock workers, and the

total tonnage of cargoes handled in the three Ports are as follows:

Name of port	Number of dock workers registered by the Dock Labour Boards	Total tonnag of cargoes handled dur ing 1953-54
1. Calcutta	11,186	8,059,099
2 Bombay	4,536	3,641,452
3. Madras	Registration work not yet completed. The number may come to between 1,000 to 1,200	2,037,305

LEPROSY IN INDIA

42. { **Shri Amjad Ali.**
Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of beds available for in-patients in the hospitals for lepers in India;

(b) the total number of leprosy patients and lepromatous cases in the country statewise;

(c) the main reasons for the spread of the disease; and

(d) whether any decision has been taken to set up leprosy treatment study and subsidiary centres under the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The total number of beds available in colonies homes, asylums and hospitals for leprosy patients is about 20,000.

(b) No accurate statistics are available. The total number of leprosy patients in the country is, however, estimated to be in the neighbourhood of 1·2 million, out of which lepromatous cases may be about quarter of a million.

The disease is spreading on account of several socio-economic factors, including the lack of restraint on the movement of those suffering from leprosy and our inability to provide adequate number of colonies for them.

(d) No decision has so far been taken regarding any schemes in the Second Five Year Plan.

SULTANPUR-JAFARABAD RAILWAY LINE

43. **Shri Ganpati Ram:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the progress that has been made in the construction of the Sultanpur-Jafarabad Railway Line; and

(b) the amount of money that has been spent so far on its construction?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Out of a total distance of 58 miles between Sultanpur and Zafarabad, linking of track has been completed on about 40 miles.

(b) Rs. 43 lakhs approximately has been spent so far on this restoration.

LOK SABHA

DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

VOLUME VI, 1954

(23rd August to 11th September, 1954)

Seventh Session

1954

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

A... 25315
Dated 27.11.2014

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 24th August, 1954.

The Lok Sabha met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

9-25 A.M.

STATEMENT *RE*: FLOODS IN ASSAM, NORTH-BIHAR WEST BENGAL AND UTTAR PRADESH

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): It is a matter for deep regret that this year again there have been disastrous floods in the eastern parts of India. Full details about these floods, particularly regarding the extent of damage caused are not yet available, but on the basis of the reports that I have so far received from the State Governments concerned, the position is as follows:—

The worst affected areas are Assam and Bihar where the flood waters have submerged 12,000 and 10,000 square miles respectively. West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh have also suffered heavy damages.

The cause of floods in Assam is stated to be the silting up of the bed of the Brahmaputra which is the main drainage channel. This caused wide-spread floods extending from Sadiya to Dhubri. The first flood occurred in the middle of June and the second one from early July reaching the peak of its intensity without any appreciable sign of subsidence. In certain areas, the flood levels have crossed the highest recorded flood level of 1931.

Floods in Bihar are mainly due to heavy rains in the Himalayan sub-regions of Nepal and in the Himalaya during the last three weeks of July 1954 which inundated large tracts of Nepal and sent down a large volume of waters into the rivers emanating from Nepal Terai. This combined with local heavy rains in certain parts of the State resulted in floods of very great intensity indeed greater than the floods last year. Gandak and Kosi were in spate and the level of water in these rivers was higher than the recorded high levels reached in 1902 and 1927 respectively. The intensity of floods persisted for about 4 days from 26th to 29th July, 1954 after which the water started receding.

In West Bengal extensive deforestation in Tibet and Bhutan; heavy precipitation of sand and silt in catchment areas of Himalayan rivers and unusual rains that altered the courses of Himalayan rivers, was the cause of floods; while in Uttar Pradesh it was due to the spate in the rivers Rapti, Rohini, Gandak, Ghagra, Ami, Kuano and Sarju.

In Assam major parts of the districts of Lakhimpur, Sibsagar, Darrang, Nowgong, Kamrup and Goalpara have been affected; while in Bihar the districts worst affected are Purnea, Saharsa, North Monghyr, Darbhanga, Mozzaffarpur and Champaran.

[Dr. Katju]

A total area of over 300 square miles comprising of several towns and villages has been affected in West Bengal; while in Uttar Pradesh the total flood area is estimated to be about 300 square miles comprising of five districts and 2,500 villages.

Fortunately there has not been heavy loss of human life. The number of human lives reported to have been lost so far are 17 in Assam, 29 in Bihar, 9 in West Bengal and one in Uttar Pradesh. No correct reports are available about the loss of cattle in Assam. 60 and 500 heads of cattle are, however, reported to have been lost in Bihar and West Bengal respectively. There has not been any loss of cattle in Uttar Pradesh.

The roads in Assam have been very seriously damaged and would require about Rs. 75.06 lakhs for repairs. There has also been heavy damage to village roads under the local boards and many buildings have been damaged or washed away. Damage to private properties other than crops is estimated to be about Rs. 8 to 10 lakhs. Damages to corps have not yet been estimated.

It has not been possible to judge the extent of damage in Bihar. However, there have been several breaches in railway lines, trunk roads and protective embankments. Damage to the crops is very heavy covering about 12 lakh acres of Bhadai crops and 18 lakh acres of Aghani crops.

In West Bengal as many as 21 roads and bridges have been damaged; railway lines breached at 4 places; 17,000 families have lost their dwelling houses; over 50 thousand acres of paddy land has been damaged. There has also been very heavy loss to timber which has been washed away. Loss of other public and private property may amount, it is estimated, to crores of rupees.

In Uttar Pradesh railway communications were interrupted in Deoria district for a couple of days and two temporary structures were washed away by floods. The crops have suffered extensively.

Assam Government have sanctioned agricultural loans of Rs. 8,50,000 and gratuitous relief of Rs. 1,18,050 from State revenues and Rs. 1,49,800 from the Governor's Earthquake Relief Fund for gratuitous relief. The relief Committees in collaboration with the District Congress Committees are also rendering help.

In Bihar the State Government are doing their best to render help to sufferers and over 600 relief parties using some 4,000 boats are functioning. All possible medical aid has also been given to flood-affected persons amongst whom food and clothing are also being distributed. Agricultural loans and Natural Calamities loans have also been given.

West Bengal have sanctioned over Rs. 2 lakhs for gratuitous relief in cash; 500 maunds of rice doles; about Rs. 2 lakhs for free housebuilding grants and Rs. 4 lakhs for agricultural loans. In addition they have also distributed cloth, blankets, children's garments, milk powder, multivitamin tablets and other medicines necessary for the relief of affected areas.

Uttar Pradesh Government have spent Rs. 35,000 on gratuitous relief and Rs. 1 lakh on *taccavi*. Cane Unions have advanced Rs. 1 lakh.

The Government of Assam want a sum of Rs. 90.06 lakhs from the Centre which they propose to spend on gratuitous relief and for repairs of P.W.D. roads/buildings/emankments and village roads, etc. Relief to flood victims will be rendered by them in cash and in kind and also for their rehabilitation.

Bihar have asked for a sum of Rs. 5.48 crores, out of which Rs. 3.42 crores will be as loans and Rs. 2.06 crores will be spent on gratuitous relief as unrecoverable amount. In addition to gratuitous relief, the State Government also propose to organise

hard manual and light manual labour schemes; special medical and veterinary relief; purchase, hire and maintenance of boats and other schemes of relief.

West Bengal want a sum of Rs. 25 lakhs for gratuitous relief and house building purposes. They also require Rs. 1 lakh for repairs of communications.

Uttar Pradesh require a sum of Rs. 25 lakhs of which 50 per cent. is to be treated as loan and 50 per cent. as subsidy. They would spend Rs. 5 lakhs on gratuitous relief and the balance on *taccavi* loans.

All State Governments have certain flood relief schemes suited to the local needs and conditions of the country which they put into operation as soon as floods start occurring. For example, each flood-affected district is divided into a number of Zones which are placed incharge of Gazetted Officers. Arrangements are also made for storage of foodgrains, etc., at convenient centres from which they can be sent to the flood-affected areas quickly. A large number of Government boats are also kept handy for relief and rescue operations. All arrangements are also made for prevention of *epidemics* amongst human beings and cattle. Free distribution of food, matches etc., is arranged among needy persons. Services of all categories of Government and public servants in the flood-affected areas are mobilised for the rescue and relief work. Services of Home Guards and Military personnel are also used wherever possible.

Schemes for the prevention of floods as a permanent measure by controlling courses of rivers are under separate consideration as a part of the Five Year Plan. The question of financial assistance asked for by the State Governments is also under urgent consideration. In the meantime, services of experts are being placed at the disposal of the State Governments where asked for. Arrangements have been made by the Health Ministry to despatch considerable free supplies of milk powder, multivitamin tablets antibiotics and sulpha drugs as also chemicals like D.D.T. to the affected areas. *Bleaching* powder as asked for has also been supplied to prevent the outbreak of *epidemics*. A part of these has been given as free gifts by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund and the Indian and League of Red Cross Societies and the rest sent from the Central Medical Stores. 5,000 tons of wheat have been supplied out of the Central stocks to Bihar at concessional rates; while the State Government have also been authorised to issue 5,000 tons of rice at concessional rates out of their stocks. A portion of the subsidy in respect of the latter will be met by the Central Government. 200 tons of rice received as a free gift from Burma have been distributed equally between Bihar and Assam. Requests from other State Governments for medicines, foodgrains and clothing, where received, are also being met.

This, Mr. Speaker, is a note based upon the information which has been received by us up-to-date.

Mr. Speaker: What about the statement proposed to be made by the hon. Minister of Irrigation and Power?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): Sir, I returned here only last night. If I have additional information to give to the House I will be able to do so in a day or two.

Mr. Speaker: So he will also make a statement. He may take a little more time, but let the statement be fuller.

Shri Nanda: On any additional facts.

Mr. Speaker: So that settles the question.

श्री बी० डी० शास्त्री (साइडोल सिद्दि) : मंत्री महोदय ने अपने स्टेटमेन्ट में नौगांव का नाम

[श्री बी० डी० शास्त्री]

लिया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि यह नौगांव विन्ध्य प्रदेश का है या और कोई है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप पहले वह स्टेटमेन्ट पढ़ लीजिये, उस के बाद सवाल पूछना हो तो पूछिये।

I suppose the hon. the Home Minister will supply copies of his statement to the Members, not only to the Office.

Dr. Katju: May I request you to ask the Secretary to do it just now?

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPLIES TO MEMORANDA *re*: DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 1954-55

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of certain further statements containing replies to certain memoranda received from members in connection with Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1954-55. [*Placed in Library. See* No. S-247/54.]

DECLARATION *re*: ASSIGNMENTS IN INDO-CHINA AND NOTES WITH PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT *re*: PORTUGUESE POSSESSIONS.

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers:—

(i) Declaration by the Government of India accepting assignments in Indo-China. [*Placed in Library. See* No. S-248/54.]

(ii) Notes exchanged between the Government of India and the Portuguese Government on the subject of Portuguese possessions in India. [*Placed in Library. See* No. S-249/54.]

COMPANIES BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE.

Shri Pataskar (Jalgaon): I beg to move:

> "That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Companies and certain other associations, be extended upto the last day of the first week of the next session."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

> "That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Companies and certain other associations, be extended upto the last day of the first week of the next session."

The motion was adopted.

FOOD ADULTERATION BILL—*contd.*

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the motion that the Bill to make provision for the prevention of adulteration of food, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): May I ask what happens to item No. 1 in the Supplementary List of Business, regarding the modification of the decision of the Labour Appellate Tribunal?

Mr. Speaker: That will be laid on the Table tomorrow.

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta-South East): Yesterday I was developing the point that the Bill, though a very salutary one, could not arouse the general enthusiasm of the country because of the obvious fact that this kind of a Bill would be rendered nugatory by the big interests involved in the production of food. There are many big interests involved in the

production of foodstuffs. If they so chose, they can tamper with the machinery which will administer this kind of law and would be able to escape through various loopholes which a corrupt machinery provides. It is not merely a question of corrupt machinery. As I was saying yesterday, even high-ups in the Government and the governing party themselves were tied with these interests with many a strong link.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*]

I was quoting as an example the case of the sugar deal in a certain province just before the general elections. We all know the story. It was not even secret. It was an open thing that during the last general elections, the sugar magnates agreed to contribute to the election fund of the governing party at the rate of a certain amount for each bag of sugar sold. By that process, Rs. 54 lakhs were collected for the election fund. In matters such as this, when these things can happen, it is very easy to conceive that they will utilise these benefits which they confer to get something in return for them. For example, if the sugar merchants paid Rs. 54 lakhs to the election fund, they would easily expect that they would be enabled to mix some sand from the holy banks of the Ganges with their sugar and the Government would not be expected to interfere unduly with it. That is the thing we are apprehensive of; I find that is also the thing which the House is generally apprehensive of, namely, that these laws may be rendered nugatory.

On the other hand, although the big guns would escape, the smaller fries may be subjected to considerable harassment. There is considerable scope for harassment in the Bill itself. After all, when you administer a Bill of this kind, you may expect the police to show their efficiency and zeal for the purity of foodstuffs by harassing the smaller fries in production, and often by harassing without any cause whatever. Now, we have the experience of the operation of our food control laws in the various States. We know that they have had a very thriving black-market in foodstuffs when there was food shortage and when there was rationing of food. We also know that there were many big merchants who were trading in food and indulging in these black-marketing operations on a very large scale. We had always figures of prosecutions and convictions: 500 prosecuted, 300 convicted and so forth. But, we know from experience that those prosecuted were not big guns who were responsible for black-marketing, but small traders, some women who brought in food and sold them in small lots—may be in violation of the rationing laws, but still they sold them in small lots because they had no other way of earning a livelihood. It is these who were prosecuted; not only prosecuted, but they were brutally treated by the police before the prosecution. This kind of thing may happen in the course of the administration of this Bill. But, with all that, we will support this Bill. We will support the main objectives of the Bill, although not all the provisions of the Bill. We will support it because the demand for checking adulteration is a very great popular demand. It is said and rightly said that in many States, there is no law or practically no law to prevent adulteration of food. Therefore, we do want a law of this kind. Although this law is liable to leave big guns unharmed and lead to harassment of others, we can rely on public opinion and we can rely on the peoples' movement to make the necessary corrections in the administration of the Bill. I am not unaware of the fact that many abuses will take place. I am also confident that we shall be able to rouse such a great indignation against this kind of administration that we will be able through sheer pressure of public opinion to get some justice into the administration of the Bill. And, if, through a corrupt machinery, even some justice filters

[Shri Sadhan Gupta]

through, that would be a great achievement of this law because of the magnitude of the problem of adulteration. As regards harassments, I can say on behalf of my party, and I believe for every Member of this House, that we will fight tooth and nail against harassment of any innocent persons or undue harassment even of persons who are guilty but whose guilt is not too severe.

In this connection, I must refer to clause 20 and voice my opposition to it. What we are ought to do is to prevent adulteration and not to protect the adulterer. But, clause 20 provides that we cannot institute prosecutions without the sanction of the Government. What we need is that the adulterer should be put to the risk of being prosecuted every time that adulteration is detected, no matter who detects it. It may be the police who detect it; it may be a private person who detects it. But, whenever it is detected, the adulterer must be subjected to prosecution and he must be aware of the risk of prosecution. What will happen if the prosecution is left to the police? If private persons were enabled to prosecute, no person on earth would escape whether it was a big businessman or whether it was a small fry. When he is guilty, the aggrieved person who buys food will undertake the prosecution or will find his way to see that a prosecution is launched. There are many social institutions which will help him to prosecute. But, if it is left to the Government, we know that there are many ways of seeing that the Government do not give their sanction. We have our experience of prosecutions in regard to industrial disputes. We know that in a particular case, the manager of a British bank was given free permission to prosecute persons guilty of a technical offence and offences of technical illegal strike which subsequently was condoned by another industrial tribunal and the persons dismissed for the strike were ordered to be reinstated, but the West Bengal Government which was in charge of these things at that time freely accorded permission to the Manager to prosecute the workers. But it is very difficult for workers to get similar permission to prosecute industrialists, particularly when the industrialist happens to be somebody, some high-up, and to have links with the Government. Now, these things will happen even in the case of adulteration. Firstly, they will buy off the police and see that the investigation is carried on in such a manner that no prosecutions take place. And secondly, even if the police do submit a charge-sheet, they would be able to persuade the Government, the people in the Government whom they know, not to award or give sanctions for such prosecution. This kind of thing will be remedied if private persons are allowed to prosecute. Let people come out with prosecutions in the public interest. Let everyone who manufactures food be fully aware that he cannot adulterate without the risk of going to jail, and no power on earth can protect him from going to jail if he adulterates. Therefore, I would strongly urge upon the House to reject clause 20 and to give freedom of prosecution to every person aggrieved by adulteration.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem): Mr. Chairman, there cannot be two opinions about the necessity for this Bill at all. There have been State legislations, and for the first time we are going to have an all-India legislation. I am only sorry that this Bill which was introduced in 1952 should have taken two years to come up before this House for consideration and passing.

I do not wish to multiply the instances of the way in which adulteration goes on in foodstuffs, the infinitely varied ways—mixing of groundnut oil with coconut oil or gingili oil and so on, preparing foodstuffs in inferior material, sometimes not even in oil but mobil oil. I have the rare experience—and I have got two or three colleagues with me here

who will bear me out—that in the Grand Trunk Express we were one day served with *vada* prepared in kerosene oil. We were surprised. It was astounding. The smell was that of kerosene oil.

Shri N. M. Lingam (Coimbatore): There is no adulteration in it. It is pure kerosene oil.

An Hon. Member: Was it pure?

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Are you sure it was pure?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I do not know. If we had taken it, we could have easily been set on fire and there would have been four parliamentary by-elections—four of us were involved—and very probably hon. Members would have had to stand up four times in honour of the victims of kerosene oil *vada*. Luckily he said there was a mistake. I do not know whether there was a mistake, or for want of oil he emptied the oil in the stove and prepared the *vada*. Such things are going on.

10 A.M.

There was another instance I came across at Bangalore. I do not know whether hon. Members have come across that. Two bottles full of apparently ground coffee powder were placed before us and we were asked to decide which was coffee and which was not. Would you believe it, we were not able to decide. Both were of the identical texture and quality, yet one was real coffee and the other was ground *jamun* seed. They are fried in ghee or some such thing and ground just like coffee powder and mixed with a trace of coffee powder, so that in flavour, in texture and in fineness there is absolutely no distinction between the two, unless you put it in hot water when you will find the one genuine and the other a concoction, the decoction of which is anything but coffee. The other thing was adulterated and it was an unadulterated fraud. Such things are going on, but then what I wish to contribute in this debate is this. Though this Bill is very well meant and is welcome, there are certain serious legal flaws which I wish to point out.

Let me read clause 20(2):

> "No Court inferior to that of a Presidency magistrate or a magistrate of the first class shall try and offence under this Act."

I do not see any special virtue in this negative form in which it is put. Now, having stated that it is a Presidency magistrate or a magistrate of the first class before whom a case can be instituted, I will take you to clause 16 where it is stated that for the first offence there may be imprisonment for a term extending to one year or fine which may extend to Rs. 2,000; for the second offence for a term which may extend to two years and fine; and for the third offence for four years and fine. Now, in the subsequent clause 21 it sounds to me to be somewhat out of the way and extraordinary. It is doing violence to the Code. It says:

> "Notwithstanding anything contained in section 32 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act V of 1898), it shall be lawful for any Presidency magistrate or any magistrate of the first class to pass any sentence authorised by this Act in excess of his powers under section 32 of the said Code."

I am driving at two points. In clause 20(2) you have laid down that no Court inferior to that of a Presidency magistrate or a magistrate of the first class shall try an offence under this Act. Therefore, when you frame clause 16, you must confine yourself to the quantom of punishment that is laid down in the Code, especially so when you are trying to give excess powers under clause 21. The fine of Rs. 2,000 which you have provided for the first offence is itself obviously in excess of the powers of the first class magistrate or Presidency magistrate. If that is so, it obviously conflicts not merely with clause 22, but also with

[Shri S. V. Ramaswamy]

clause 21. There must be some harmonious construction, some harmony in framing the clauses. Up to clause 20 there is a stage, and up to that stage it must be self-contained and consistent with the Criminal Procedure Code. If you provide that the Court of institution of the prosecution shall be the first class magistrate, then the powers to penalise that shall be conferred upon that Court shall be in terms of the Criminal Procedure Code. Initially you are starting with Rs. 2,000 fine which is in excess of the powers of the magistrate and at the same time you are providing under clause 21 for further excess. How do you reconcile these two. I am sorry there should be this mistake.

The point is this. The original draft of the Bill contains some scheme, some sense. It is in an orderly fashion. It started with the proposition that the case can be instituted in the Court of a second class magistrate, the punishment being three months for the first offence and subsequently one year. Now, out of anxiety, I think, which prevailed in the Select Committee to be vindictive to the man who adulterates....

Shri C. R. Narasimhan (Krishnagiri): To be more effective.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: ...they have lost sight of certain legal flaws. They have also not found out that there is a conflict between the several clauses 16, 22 and 21.

I am not happy about the original draft either, for this reason. The whole scheme as it has emanated from the Select Committee, if it is a scheme at all, is so absolutely rigid that in actual enforcement of this Act, it will be an engine of tyranny over the people. It is out of tune with the attending circumstances, with the life as it is seen. Under clause 1 you have defined "local authority" in such a manner that it includes not merely the Municipality or the District Board, but the lowest local body, viz., the Panchayat. Now, what are the common cases that we come across? There is a wide range of adulterations, and the commonest is this. The village milkmaid adds water to the milk. That is adulteration. The other extreme is where a contractor to the Army passes off *vanaspati* as ghee, cheats Government to the tune of Rs. 1½ crores, and gets involved in a big case. These are the two extremes. In between, there are various gradations of cases. When you frame an Act of this nature, you should not forget that this is an all-India Act, and the States ought to function within the framework of this Act. They cannot go beyond this. So, we must frame the Act in such manner that there must be a sufficient amount of elasticity and latitude given to the States to adjust themselves in the administration of this Act, according to the circumstances of the case.

I find that this Bill is, to a large extent, based upon the Madras Adulteration Act of 1918. We have been having that Act for over thirty years, and it has been working very well. The punishment varies from a hundred rupees to five hundred rupees. A case under that Act can be tried even by a third class magistrate, if so specially authorised. The purpose of my saying all this is this. I have seen in Salem Municipality, how this Act is administered. On some appointed day, the health staff post themselves at the various approaches to the city, catch hold of the village milkmen or the women who bring the milk from the villages, take samples of the milk, and send those samples to the food analyst. Then, the cases are brought before the magistrate. We must have some such thing under the New Delhi Municipality, so that the women who bring milk from the remote villages could be detained at some traffic centre, and samples of the milk taken for purposes of analysis. Then, batches of cases are put before the magistrate, about thirty, forty or fifty cases, for adulteration of milk. And what does the magistrate do? He

levies a fine of Rs. 5 or Rs. 10 or Rs. 15, and these batches of cases are disposed of summarily. You must make provision for a summary disposal of such cases also, because they are so petty.

Again, once you lay down in clause 21 that it shall be a first class magistrate who shall try the case, what is to be the procedure that should be followed? Have you found anywhere in the Criminal Procedure Code, the procedure that should be followed? Is it 'warrant procedure' or 'summons procedure'? Is there any provision for a summary disposal of these cases? There is no latitude at all; there is absolute rigidity. You fix it at a high level, the level of a first class magistrate, because you want a higher punishment to be given. This, I submit, is taking a narrow view of things. In framing a law, we must give the utmost elasticity, so that it may be adjusted to various circumstances in various places. Now, the administration in the several States is not of the same standard always. I feel proud to say that the standard of administration in Madras, for instance, is about the highest in the whole Union. You take some other place, like Assam, for instance. You have laid it down here that this is a first class offence. You will have to walk thirty or forty or even forty-five miles, before you can come across a first class magistrate in a place like Assam, and yet you fix the court of a first class magistrate as the only court of institution. It absolutely lacks a sense of reality as to how the Act is to be administered. Therefore, I submit that the penalty portions of clause 16 are inconceived.

In order to make this conform to the Criminal Procedure Code, and to what is laid down in Section 32 of that Code, what I am submitting is this. In the Madras Act, a provision is there for the institution of such prosecutions even before a magistrate of third class, provided he is so specially empowered. Perhaps, it may not be possible or even admissible to go down to that level. But I have suggested in an amendment of mine to provide even for that. The States may be empowered to classify certain class or classes of cases as cases which may be instituted before a third class magistrate and be disposed of by him. I have even sought to confer by my amendment powers upon them to declare certain cases to be disposed of summarily. Otherwise, it will lead to harassment. For pouring water in milk, and selling it, are you going to charge these village women before a first class magistrate under the warrant procedure, and drag them for a number of times to the court, and harass them?

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): Why do you bring in the village women?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It may be men in your parts.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What about your parts?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Generally, women bring the milk. If, in your parts, men bring it, I accept your amendment. It may be men or women who bring milk. Whoever brings it is a small matter.

What I am submitting is this. For the first offence, it may be within the powers conferred upon a second class magistrate. For a second or subsequent offence, there must be enhanced punishment, and then I submit, it may be within the powers of a first class magistrate. Instead of clause 21, I would submit the introduction of another clause by which the prosecutions under this Act may be instituted normally, in the first instance, in the court of a second class magistrate, provided that cases in respect of second or subsequent offences can be instituted before a first class magistrate. I have also suggested a proviso by which power may be given to the States to specify certain class or classes of cases as cases which may be instituted before a third class magistrate and may even be disposed of summarily. This

[Shri S. V. Ramaswamy]

is the only way in which, from an administrative point of view, this Act can be effectively administered. Otherwise, this will be just another engine of oppression, of needless oppression. I do hope that whoever is in charge of the drafting will look into these things and see that the suggestions are taken.

Clause 21 strikes me as rather extraordinary. You will see that up to clause 29, the Bill as it has emerged from the Select Committee follows the sequence of the original Bill. When the Select Committee were anxious to introduce a draconic code with regard to punishments, they lost sight of the fact that they could not do so, and therefore, perforce, they had to fall back upon clause 21, which is a new clause. It is here that the sequence or the general scheme of the Bill gets upset, because in their anxiety, the Select Committee, not being contented with the fact that what they have provided for in clause 16 itself is in excess of the powers of a first class magistrate, as provided in the Criminal Procedure Code, pursued the matter further, and to be more aggressive, they have thought of clause 21, which to my mind is not fair or proper, and which is in one sense outrageous.

To invest a magistrate with such wide powers is a dangerous thing to do. Let us not forget that this is going to be an all-India Act, and it is going to be worked by the States within their framework. Let us not also forget that there are magistrates, who become first class magistrates, after a service of four or five years. There are cases like that. To invest such magistrates with these extraordinary powers under clause 21 is the most dangerous thing to do, for in actual administration, it will lead to very grave injustice. I am very much opposed to clause 21. I do not think that it is right for Parliament to invest a magistrate with powers far in excess of what is provided for in the Criminal Procedure Code itself. You mention in the clause itself:

> "Notwithstanding anything contained in section 32 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act V of 1898), it shall be lawful for any Presidency magistrate or any magistrate of the first class...."

You provide in the clause itself that it shall be within the power of a magistrate to go in excess of what is provided for in the Code of Criminal Procedure. I think this is a very dangerous provision, which ought to be deleted.

Instead of that, I would submit that you had better have a clause by which you prescribe the procedure. The procedure is very important. If it is a warrant procedure, I am very sorry it will work havoc for the poor people. I have suggested certain things and when the amendments come up, I shall make this clear.

Going upon certain other things I had also seen in connection with this, I am not happy about the wording of clause 18. It says:

> "Where any person has been convicted under this Act for the contravention of any of the provisions of this Act or of any rule thereunder, the article of food in respect of which the contravention has been committed may be forfeited to the Government."

Suppose there is a stock of food. You catch only one portion of that food, say, one lb. of some concoction or mixture of edible stuff. Is it enough to confiscate only that? What about the other food stock? So you must provide for the confiscation of all that stock also and this clause may be so drafted, as I have suggested in my amendment, that this confiscation must be in addition to the punishment. Powers must be given to the magistrate to pass orders then and there of confiscation in addition to the imprisonment or fine or both. Now, if that is admitted, there is no need for clause 21. You will then

have imprisonment, fine or both, and confiscation. What more do you want to terrorise the people who adulterate foodstuffs? Why do you go and violate the Constitution and the Code of Criminal Procedure by saying that it shall be open to the magistrate, notwithstanding anything contained in the Code, to impose a punishment which is far in excess of the powers conferred upon him by the Code. You are trying to violate the Code; you pay only lip-sympathy and violate it in letter, not merely in spirit. Therefore, this may kindly be looked into and amended suitably.

The other point I wish to submit is that the definition of 'adulteration' is not clear. There is a very big loophole. I have had a discussion with those concerned with this. I would like to introduce the word 'quantity' also. It says: "...if the article sold by a vendor is not of the nature, substance or quality demanded by the purchaser". Unless you introduce the word 'quantity' also, there will be a very big loophole. I am well aware of the fact that in the English Act and other Acts the word 'quantity' is not there, but that, to my mind, is no reason why I should blindly follow the other Acts. I am suggesting that there is a loophole for this reason. The other day I was looking into a glucose tin. It says—calcium per oz. 48 milligrams or phospherous 27.6 milligrams. Glucose D by no stretch of imagination can be called a drug because normally people take it along with coffee and we feed children with glucose, so much so that it must be treated more as a food than as a drug, though it may be used as a drug. Now, suppose in preparing this, actually there is not 48 milligrams calcium or 27 milligrams phospherous, but a lesser percentage of something else, would it not amount to adulteration?

Shri B. S. Murthy: Then it ceases to be glucose.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It is glucose still; the label is there. You might possibly stretch the word 'misbranded' and bring it under that. But it is not so. Quantitatively what is described as necessary is not there, but something else is there. I submit it is adulteration, because it means lack of a certain percentage which is declared to be there. The percentage there is the quantity; it may affect the quality, if a certain percentage of a certain ingredient is not there. If that is so, unless you include the word 'quantity' also it will not be covered; I repeat again that the mere fact that in the English Act or other Acts elsewhere in India the word 'quantity' is not there, is no reason why we should not include the word 'quantity' also. This also may kindly be considered.

The other point I wish to urge is this. In clause 3, sub-clause (g), it is not clear as to what is meant by 'two representatives of industry and commerce nominated by the Central Government'. It must be very clearly and specifically stated that those representatives are the representatives of the food industry. As it is, it may mean any industry. That is not what we want. There are certain industries concerned with the manufacture of certain foodstuffs—biscuits, chocolates, sweets and this and that. Representatives of such food industries must be specifically included; otherwise the bland statement 'two representatives of industry and commerce' does not take us very far.

The other very important thing that I have in mind is as stated in my amendment No. 46, that the rules whenever they are framed under the Act must be placed before Parliament. This is not the first time that I am urging this. I have been urging in respect of Bill after Bill and emphasising that the powers of Parliament cannot be surrendered to the executive; it is the prerogative of this Parliament to see that the executive does not arrogate to itself powers under the rules which Parliament never intended to confer upon them. Working as a member of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, a number of times I have found out how

[Shri S. V. Ramaswamy]

the executive in their anxiety to arrogate power to themselves have framed rules which are far in excess of what the Parliament intended to confer upon them. That is why again and again I have repeatedly urged this and I have got an amendment that whatever rules are framed under clause 4 or clause 23 or clause 24 must be placed before the Parliament. I am very glad that in amendment No. 134, the hon. Minister of Health has accepted one of my amendments by saying that whatever rules are framed here by the Centre will be placed before Parliament. But I am not satisfied with that. There must be provision in this Bill that after the States frame rules, those rules shall be placed before the respective Assemblies of those States also. We must make it obligatory here and now. That is a very essential thing and I hope that that amendment of mine will also be accepted.

There is one minor matter. It relates to the establishment of a Central Food Laboratory as per clause 4. I am somewhat apprehensive, Sir, and I have some doubts regarding this. I come from a district centre—and rural parts also—and I confess to a sense of horror about this, it is out of fear that this Central Food Laboratory may be established in Delhi. I suggest that it may be established at a central place in India. Not merely that. It is not enough to have one central organisation because under the proviso to clause 13 you have made it clear:

> "Provided that any document purporting to be a certificate signed by the Director of the Central Food Laboratory shall be final and conclusive evidence of the facts stated therein".

My experience on the criminal side has shown that oftentimes delay is due to the non-receipt of the Serologist's report in murder cases. There is only one Serologist; he is in Calcutta. If ever there is a delay in the disposal of cases, it is because of the fact that there is delay from want of a central office. If there should be a need for a certificate issued from the Central Food Laboratory and if there should be one Laboratory somewhere near about Delhi, I am afraid there will be an enormous delay in disposal of cases which ought to be disposed of summarily. There must be some provision for more than one laboratories; there should be Regional Laboratories, if necessary; then they may be disposed of quickly.

Then I come to clause, sub-clause (7). It reads like this:

> "Any food inspector may exercise the powers of a police officer under section 57 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, for the purpose of ascertaining the true name and residence of the person from whom a sample is taken or an article of food is seized".

Is that enough? What does it say? It says: he shall for the purpose of ascertaining the true name and residence etc. I have already given notice of an amendment, and I am very glad to find that you, Mr. Chairman, have also tabled an amendment subsequently that the procedure laid down in the Criminal Procedure Code relating to searches ought to be followed. That is very necessary. Otherwise you would be placing power in the hands of the Food Inspectors enormously, out of proportion to their status. You are not going to authorise the Food Inspector to go and break open a house and enter and search it without a search warrant. It will be outrageous. If the Food Inspector really suspects that in a particular place or receptacle something which is obnoxious is kept, what prevents him from going to the magistrate and getting an authorisation for search and do that? It should not be left to the free will of a Food Inspector to disregard the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure and at his sweet will break open a house and search it. The clause merely says that he may exercise the powers of a police

officer under section 57 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for the purpose of ascertaining the true name and residence of the person from whom a sample is taken or an article of food is seized. What about his acting in accordance with the Criminal Procedure Code? The draftsman seems to have forgotten that. The whole conduct of the Food Inspector must be regulated by the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code. Otherwise, I am afraid, there will be very great difficulty.

I will come to clause 11. I am reading clause 11(1)(b).

> "except in special cases provided by rules under this Act separate the sample then and there into three parts and mark and seal or fasten up each part in such a manner as its nature permits;"

In whose presence? It is not mentioned. It must be in the presence of the owner; otherwise there may be very great difficulty; there may be spurious prosecutions. It must be taken in his presence.

I am also providing for another safeguard to the individual. You know, Mr. Chairman, as a leading criminal lawyer that oftentimes an on-the-spot record is made in the presence of independent witnesses as to the action taken by a police officer in the matter of a search or the examination of witnesses. When the seizure is made, a *mahazar* as we call it in the South, is prepared as to the exact nature of the thing seized and two independent witnesses attest the document so that there may be no scope for forgery. Such a thing is absolutely necessary. We must be fair not merely to the public but also to the adulterator. Even when we punish him, we must punish him after due trial and justice should be done to him. We shall not do it arbitrarily but we shall do it after due process of law. These are necessary checks to safeguard that there is no abuse of powers. (*Interruption.*)

Then the question arises whether we should authorise private individuals also to launch prosecutions. I find from the Madras Act that it can be done. I am afraid that in the present set-up, with the level of civic responsibility as it is, it would be rather dangerous to invest private individuals with this power of prosecution. I would rather advocate deferring it for some time rather than incorporate it in this Bill.

Two more points and I am done. I am not sure.....

Mr. Chairman: I do not want to interfere with the hon. Member's speech. He has taken more than half an hour and we have devoted more than a day and a half on this matter and I propose to close the general discussion very soon. I would request him to kindly leave some time for others.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I have got one other point, Sir, with regard to clause 13 in its relation to section 510 of the Criminal Procedure Code. This says—

> "Provided that any document purporting to be a certificate signed by the Director of the Central Food Laboratory shall be final and conclusive evidence of the facts stated therein."

There are only certain specific persons mentioned in the Code of Criminal Procedure whose reports are accepted as evidence. In the Criminal Procedure Code, as it is sought to be amended by Dr. Katju, certain other categories are to be put in. But, I do not know whether in the absence of that amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, we would be well advised in introducing this proviso.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury (Nabadwip): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Bill needs every support. There can be no two opinions about it. The Bill goes a step forward towards correcting the state of affairs in the country, and we all welcome it. Any legislation of this kind must go hand in hand with the implementation of it, which is a

[Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury]

far more difficult thing. While preaching and propagating that adulteration is bad the public opinion must be formed to reject foodstuffs that are adulterated on foods that are imitations of pure food. Advertisements landing things like *vanaspati* should be banned. Everybody is cognisant of the wonderful advertisements that we see everywhere that a very beautiful dancer who now dances for three or four hours without a break could not do so before and this is because she now takes food prepared in *vanaspati*. The inference in showing that she used to get tired within ten minutes is that she was used to food prepared in pure ghee. I think this sort of advertisement should at least be counteracted by various reports from the Health Ministry put into the newspapers from time to time, exhorting people to strain their purses—and buy a little of what is good—rather than a greater quantity of what is unhealthy or an imitation. The soul of advertisement, as everybody knows, is saying a thing often enough and long enough, and in time people begin to believe it. Children are gradually given food cooked in Dalda or *vanaspati* products for mothers' minds have been gradually changed. It is essential that the implementation of this Bill be enforced by Food Inspectors and so on, but they must work in close co-operation with social workers who will have every facility of giving them data about local conditions.

The harassment of the small vendors must surely by guarded against because usually the policeman or the Food Inspector is more liable to get down on the small vendor and the real source from where the poor, ignorant vendor has bought his stuff, very often, goes unnoticed. This must really be corrected and the source got at, and, if necessary, their stocks taken.

To make supplies of pure food available should be part of the implementation of this scheme because unless pure food is available, there is no point in banning adulterated food When we do not get one thing we are bound to go in for another. Labelling of aduiterated foodstuffs should clearly state what adulteration has been used.

I regret to say that there is no clause provided in this Bill particularly safeguarding foods that are used for infants and children. Food used for infants and children must contain all the body-building and health-giving properties needed for child-health and any food or milk product that is deficient, should be clearly marked as unsuitable for infants and children. In Switzerland and other European countries this precaution is stringently taken; condensed milk from which fat has been extracted is clearly marked, stating that it is unsuitable for infants. It is a deplorable fact that the milk powders that we see sold at random all over India today even in country places do not contain body-building and health-giving properties, yet the regrettable part of it is that it is possibly sold at a price much lower than even the adulterated milk which is sold in India! If possible, a clause covering this should be included in this Bill. The civic mind must be made conscious of the seriousness of adulteration. It should be done by talks, visual methods, cinematographs and by various kinds of propaganda. This is well illustrated by a story. There was a grocer who was heard talking to his son from upstairs, "John, have you sanded the flour"? "Yes, father". "Have you diluted the milk"? "Yes, father". "And, have you larded the butter"? "Yes, father". "O.K., then come up to prayers".

Well, if this is the sort of mentality then it can be understood, how very difficult it will be to implement a Bill like this. Therefore, till the civic mind is trained, no matter what legislation is passed, the effect on the nation will always remain far behind.

श्री मंघ लाल शर्मा (सीकर) :

धर्मेण शासितं राष्ट्रं न च बाधा प्रवर्तते,

नाधयो व्याधयश्चैव समे राज्यं प्रशासति ॥

माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीया स्वास्थ्य मंत्रिणी महोदया के उद्बोधन का स्वागत करता हूं । बात यह है कि जैसा पवित्र उन का शुभ नाम है वैसे ही यह भी वह चाहती हैं कि भारतवर्ष को अमृत खिलायें । किन्तु भाग्यवश कुमारीपन की जो कोमलता है वह उन में आ गई है । मैं जहां तक समझता हूं कि फूड एडल्टरेशन के स्थान पर उन के अन्दर एन्टी एडल्टरेशन का ही भाव है किन्तु अपनी कोमलता के कारण वह इस एन्टी शब्द को बहुत कठोर समझती हैं । एक तो इस का कारण साफ्टनेस है दूसरे कुछ सरकारी बन्धन भी थोड़ा सा है, कुछ थोड़ा सा मिल मालिकों के चारों ओर से हाथ जोड़ने, मिन्नत समाजत करने का असर पड़ता है कि 'क्यों हम को मारने चलते हो' ? इस लिये हम को थोड़ा वनस्पति घृत बनाने दो । मैं उस को लोहे की भैंस का घी कहा करता हूं । इस के साथ भी थोड़ी क्षमा करने की भावना है । इन सब बातों से हमें कहने में भी थोड़ी निराशा हुई । जहां आप जैसे महारथी और जहां श्री राजर्षि टंडन जैसे महारथी बार बार सिर पटक पटक कर थक गये और किसी ने नहीं सुना, वहां सम्भवतः विरोधी पक्ष के कहे जाने वाले हम लोगों की बात कोई सुनेगा नहीं । तो भी कहना हमारा कर्त्तव्य है । राजकुमारी से मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि भारतीय अन्न विधान के आदर्श को भी थोड़ा सा पहिचानना चाहिये । यह भारतीय संसद् है । आप लोग डाक्टर के दृष्टिकोण से अन्न को देखते हैं, लेकिन आप एक भारत की गलियों में घूमने वाले अनपढ़ लड़के को देखिये जो जानता है कि अगर मेरा हाथ पैर को लग गया तो वह हाथ अपवित्र हो गया, उसने अन्न को छूता हूं तो वह अन्न खराब हो जावेगा । एक अच्छे से अच्छा डाक्टर इस को डाइगनोस न कर सके, लेकिन यह भारतीय सभ्यता की चीज है । आप उन लोगों के पीछे चल रहे हैं जिन की सभ्यता में यह चीज नहीं है । आप केवल भारत के बाहर की स्वच्छता और सफाई को लेना चाहते हैं । आज भी यह दशा आ गई है कि शुद्ध घी से घर का बना हुआ पसावठा लड़का दूसरे दिन खाने के लिये तैयार नहीं है लेकिन दस दिन की पड़ी हुई डबल रोटी और बिस्कूट बिष की तरह उस के गले के नीचे एकदम चला जाता है और वह इन्कार नहीं करता । कारण क्या है । आप लोगों ने भारतीय दृष्टिकोण को अन्नशास्त्र में से निकाल दिया और भुला दिया । हमारे यहां वैदिक साहित्य में उपनिषद् में एक कथन है । लिखा है :

भृगुर्वै वारुणिर्वरुणं पितरमुपससार ।

वारुणी नामक भृगु अपने पिता वरुण के पास गया :

अधीहि भगवो ब्रह्मेति

कहता है, भगवन मुझे शिक्षा दो कि ब्रह्म किस चीज को कहते हैं । जानते हो ब्रह्मा का लक्षण ?

यतो वा इमानि भूतानि जायन्ते, यें न जातानि जीवन्ति यं प्रयन्त्यभिसंविशन्ति तद्ब्रह्म ॥

जिस से प्राणियों का जन्म हो, जिस के द्वारा प्राणी जीवित रहे, जिस में अन्त में प्राणी लीन हो, वह ब्रह्म है । अन्त में तपस्या कर के, उन्होंने बतलाया :

अन्नाद्ध्येवेमानि भूतानि जायन्ते अन्नेन जातानि जीवन्ति अन्नं प्रयन्त्यभिसंविशन्ति तस्मादन्नं ब्रह्म ।

अन्न से प्राणी प्रकट होते हैं, 'अन्न द्वारा जीवित रहते हैं', अन्न में जा कर लीन होते हैं इस लिये अन्न ब्रह्म है । इसी को श्रीमद्भगवत गीता में

अन्नाद्भवन्ति भूतानि पर्जन्यादन्नसम्भवः । इत्यादि कहा ।

[श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा]

अन्नं वृद्ध रसो विष्णु र्भोक्ता देवो महेश्वर ।

इत्यादि शब्दों से मैं और आगे बढ़ाना नहीं चाहता हूं । मेरा केवल इतना निवेदन है कि आप थोड़ा सा अपने आदर्श को देखिये । भगवान कृष्ण ने तीन प्रकार की कैटेगरीज अन्न की बताई हैं ।

आयु सत्ववलारोग्यसुखप्रीतिविवर्धनाः ।
रस्याः स्निग्धाः स्थिरा हृद्या आहाराः सात्त्विक प्रियाः ।

जिस के द्वारा आयु बढ़े, जिस के द्वारा बुद्धि बढ़े, जिस के द्वारा शक्ति बढ़े, आरोग्य (स्वास्थ्य) बढ़े, रस का भरा हुआ हो, तरल पदार्थों का भरा हुआ हो, स्थिरता देने वाला ऐसा स्वास्थ्यमय भोजन सात्विकी लोगों को प्रिय होता है ।

कट्वम्ललवणात्युष्णतीक्ष्णरूक्षविदाहिनः ।
आहारा राजसस्येष्टाः दुःखशोकामयप्रदाः ।

कंडिमेन्ट्स, जो आप के मसाले हैं जिन में कोई कटु होता है, कोई खट्टा होता है, नमकीन होता है, तीखा दिल को जलाने वाला होता है, ऐसा आहार रजोगुणी लोगों को प्रिय होता है, जो कि दुःख, शोक और बीमारी को पैदा करने वाला है ।

यातयामं गतरसं पूतिपर्युषितं च यत् ।
उच्छिष्टमपि चामेध्यं भोजनं तामसप्रियम् ॥

जिस के ऊपर दिन बीत गया, रात बीत गई, जो बासी है, दुर्गन्धयुक्त है, जूठा हो और अमेध्य हो वह तमोगुणी लोगों का आहार है, जो निद्रा, आलस्य के लाने वाला है और बुद्धि को मारने वाला है । कल सुन कर हमें बड़ा खेद हुआ, हमारे ज्ञानी गुरुमुख सिंह जी ने यह कहा कि उन्होंने दूसरे देशों को देखा है । वहां उन को जवाब मिला कि हमारे यहां कभी एंडल्टरेशन नहीं होता । मैं पूछता हूं कि ब्रिटिश टाइम्स को छोड़ कर हमारे इतिहास में से किसी भी समय में आप बतला दें जब कि दूध और घी या अन्य किसी वस्तु में एंडल्टरेशन होता रहा हो । आज खाद्य सांकर्य, मनुष्य सांकर्य, कल सांकर्य, सभ्यता सांकर्य, भाषा सांकर्य, संस्कृति सांकर्य, सभी कुछ चलता है । ऐसी परिस्थिति में हम कहते हैं कि स्वास्थ्य मंत्रिणी महोदया को भारतवर्ष के मनः स्वास्थ्य का, शरीर स्वास्थ्य और उन के अध्यात्मिक स्वास्थ्य का भी ध्यान रखना चाहिये जिस से इस राष्ट्र को जो कुछ भी खाने पीने को मिलता है उस से उस के शरीर का ही पतन हो जाये । यदि आप ने ऐसा नहीं किया, यदि आप डब्बे का दूध मंगाती रहीं और लोहे की भैंस का घी चलता रहा तो आप को अपने घी और शुद्ध दुग्ध की आवश्यकता नहीं रहेगी तथा गोहत्या जैसे भयंकर कलंक को भारतवर्ष में किसी प्रकार रोके नहीं सकेंगे । मैं चाहता हूं कि स्वास्थ्य मंत्रिणी स्वयम् इस बात को अपने हाथ में ले कर भारतवर्ष के बच्चों के स्वास्थ्य के लिये, उन की उत्तम जीवन तथा स्वास्थ्य के लिये और यहां की गायों के बछड़ों के स्वास्थ्य के लिये भी भारतवर्ष की गौओं को बचायें । वह स्वयम् अपने मंत्रिमंडल में इस बात के ऊपर बार बार जोर दें । आप ने अपने संविधान में स्वीकार किया है कि गोहत्या शीघ्र ही बन्द कर देनी चाहिये । वह हमारे साथ बैठ कर पहले इस को रुकवावें । मैं समझता हूं कि भारत को केवल बी० सी० जी० के इन्जेक्शन्स से फायदा नहीं होगा । जिस आदमी को खाना नहीं मिलेगा, पीना नहीं मिलेगा उसे इन्जेक्शन क्या बीमारी से मरने से बचा लेगा । शरीर में कष्ट होने पर औषधियां अच्छी चीज हैं, लेकिन कमजोर आदमी के शरीर में औषधि काम नहीं करती क्योंकि उस के शरीर में ताकत ही नहीं होगी ।

इस लिये बार बार मैं आप से कहता हूं, मेरी आप में श्रद्धा है, मेरा विश्वास है कि आप हृदय से चाहती हैं, माता के स्थान पर आज आप राष्ट्र के लिये बैठी हैं, आप का कर्तव्य है

कि जैसे कि माता अपने बच्चे का सब प्रकार का सुख दुःख देखती है, उस को बढ़िया से बढ़िया दूध पिलाती, अन्न खिलाती है, चाहे जहां से भी हो, चाहे भीख मांग कर ही हो, खुद भूखी रह कर उस को खिलाती है, उसी प्रकार से अगर आप भारतवर्ष के बच्चों की रक्षा करेंगी तो कोई सन्देह नहीं कि उन का स्वास्थ्य अच्छा होगा। लेकिन इन कानूनों से कुछ बनने वाला नहीं है, यह निश्चित बात है। यह तो आप ने सुन लिया, इन बातों को बार बार दोहराने से कोई लाभ नहीं होगा। आप के इन्स्पेक्टर्स क्या कर सकते हैं, दूसरे लोग क्या कर सकते हैं, सरकारी कर्मचारी क्या कर सकते हैं। करप्शन की बात हर डिपार्टमेन्ट के लिये कही जा सकती है, खाली हेल्थ डिपार्टमेन्ट के ही लिये कहने की आवश्यकता नहीं। इस विषय को पार्टी लाइन से देखने की आवश्यकता नहीं है और न सरकार को गाली देने की आवश्यकता है। हम तो यह चाहते हैं कि जो राष्ट्र के बच्चों के उत्थान का विषय है उस में सब लोगों को एक हो कर चलना चाहिये। हम लोगों का भी कर्तव्य है कि गांव गांव में घूमें और कहें कि यह सोशल ईविल है। यह 'आफेन्स अगेन्स्ट सोसायटी' है। यह अपने समाज के विरुद्ध और राष्ट्र के विरुद्ध सब से बड़ा पाप है कि कोई व्यक्ति खाने में विष मिला कर खाने के पदार्थों को खराब करे और सारे राष्ट्र को कमजोर बनावे। उसको रोकने के लिए आपको प्रयत्न करना चाहिए। डाक्टर काटजू जिस प्रकार बड़ी हिम्मत से दंड विधान में संशोधन करते जाते हैं उसी प्रकार आप भी अपने विभाग में कट्टरता के साथ ऐसे नियम लावें और ऐसे आफेंसेज को इस प्रकार से दंडनीय बनावें कि कोई उनको करने का साहस न कर सके। मैं तो समझता हूं कि यदि इन आफेंसेज की सजा को पहले डिटरेंट भी बना दिया जाय तो कोई हानि नहीं होगी। लेकिन ऐसा प्रबन्ध होना चाहिए कि केवल छोटे छोटे लोगों को ही दंड मिलकर न रह जावे। मच्छर पर तोप दागने से कुछ नहीं होगा। अगर इस दुष्कर्म के करने वाले बड़े बड़े लोगों को आप अच्छी कड़ी दिलावें की सजा दें देंगी तो दूसरों को यह काम करने की हिम्मत ही नहीं होगी। और कोई फिर इस पाप में प्रवृत्त नहीं होगा।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आपके इस बिल के उद्देश्य का स्वागत करते हुए यह निवेदन करूंगा कि जहां जहां कमजोर क्लाज हों उनको आप पुनः संशोधन करके इस संसद की स्वीकृति प्राप्त करें और हमारा हार्दिक सहयोग प्राप्त करें।

श्रीमती सारदेश्वरी सिन्हा (पटना पूर्व) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आज अपने जन्म लेने के बाद तीसरे वर्ष में जब यह बिल अपने पैरों पर खड़ा हुआ है तो यह स्वागत के योग्य है। बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि इस लोक-सभा का भी यह तीसरा वर्ष है और इस बिल का भी यह तीसरा वर्ष है। मुझे तो शक हो रहा था कि यह बिल कहीं बिना मौत ही न मर जाये। किन्तु शुक्र है कि आज यह बिल हमारे सामने उपस्थित है। मैं समझती हूं कि हमारी स्वास्थ्य मंत्रिणी जी के कोमल कन्धों पर बधाइयों का बोझ बहुत ज्यादा पड़ गया है। शायद इस लोक-सभा के इतिहास में यह पहला मौका है कि चारों तरफ से इतनी बधाइयां मिली हैं, दायें से, बायें से, आगे से और पीछे से हर तरफ से बधाइयों की आवाज आ रही है। कोई इक्के दुक्के लोग छूट गये हैं जिन्होंने बधाई नहीं दी है। ऐसी आवाज तो निकलती ही है, वरना लोक-सभा के अधिकतर लोगों की बधाइयों का बोझ उनके कोमल कन्धों पर है जो कभी कभी उनको असहनीय भी मालूम होता होगा लेकिन क्या करूं मैं भी लाचार हूं कि मेरी जबान भी उनके लिए बधाई के कुछ शब्द कहना चाहती है यह जानते हुए भी कि उनके ऊपर बधाइयों का बहुत ज्यादा बोझ पड़ चुका है।

स्वास्थ्य मंत्रिणी जी से इस बिल के ऊपर कुछ कहने के पहले मैं एक अपील करना चाहती हूं। यहां पर बहुत से सदस्यों ने

[श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा]

वनस्पति का विरोध किया है और कहा है कि वनस्पति से साधारण अच्छे घी में बहुत बिगाड़ होता है । उनके यह कहने से और उनकी भावनाओं से यह मालूम होता है कि वह सरकार पर यह आरोप लगाते हैं कि यह जो बड़े बड़े सेठ लोग हैं जो कि यह वनस्पति का काम करते हैं सरकार उनको साथ में रखना चाहती है और इसी लिए डालडा के बेचने में और उसके उत्थान में कोई रुकावट नहीं डालती । तो मैं स्वास्थ्य मंत्राणी जी से यह अपील करूंगी कि जब लोक-सभा में इस तरह के आरोप सरकार पर लगाये जाते हैं तो उनको चाहिए कि वह कुछ डाक्टरों और साइंटिस्टों की एक कमेटी बनाकर इस चीज की जांच कराये और एक विज्ञप्ति प्रकाशित करें ताकि हमारे देश के लोगों को और हमारे लोक-सभा के सदस्यों को यह कहने का मौका न मिले कि सरकार उन लोगों को छांह देना चाहती है और सरकार उन लोगों को देश में बिगाड़ पैदा करने का मौका देना चाहती है । मैं बखूबी जानती हूं कि डालडा को बढ़ाने में सरकार को कोई मतलब नहीं है । सरकार पर यह गलत आरोप लगाया जाता है और स्वास्थ्य मंत्राणी जी पर और स्वास्थ्य विभाग पर यह गलत आरोप लगाया जाता है।

अब मैं इस बिल पर आती हूं । जहां तक इस बिल के महत्व का सवाल है इस बारे में कोई दो राये नहीं हो सकतीं । इसका सब लोगों ने समर्थन किया है और मेरे पीछे वाले सदस्य ने बहुत से श्लोकों से इसका समर्थन किया है । परन्तु मैं इस चीज को पांच सौ वर्ष पीछे नहीं ले जाना चाहती । वे बातें इतिहास में अपनी जगह रखती हैं और वह स्थान महान् है । लेकिन उन पांच सौ वर्ष पुरानी बातों को लाकर आजकल की चीजों को देखने में बड़ी दिक्कत हो जाती है । आपने पाव रोटी के बारे में कहा है । मैं कहूंगी कि इस तरह की बातें आजकल किसी को अंचती नहीं । न पाव रोटी को खाने से हमारी सभ्यता को धक्का लगता है और हमारी संस्कृति मरती है । इसलिए ऐसी बातों का इस बिल के प्रति कोई महत्व नहीं है ।

इस बिल के बारे में अब तक बहुत कुछ कहा जा चुका है । दरअसल बाद में बोलने वाले को बहुत नुकसान हो जाता है । एक वक्ता के बोलने के पहले मैं सोचती थी कि मैं अमुक बात कहूंगी लेकिन मेरे बोलने के पहले दूसरे वक्ताओं ने मेरी बात छीन ली । तो इस तरह से पीछे बोलने वाले को बहुत मुश्किल हो जाती है । फिर भी अध्यक्ष महोदय ने चूंकि मुझे समय दिया है इसलिए मैं दो एक बातें सदन के सामने रखूंगी ।

सब से बड़ी बात तो मैं सदन के सामने यह रखना चाहती हूं कि एडल्टरेशन करने वाले हजारों और लाखों की संख्या में हैं । जब तक आप उन सब को रजिस्टर नहीं करेंगे तब तक एडल्टरेशन को रोकना मुश्किल होगा । इसलिए मैं आपसे यह अपील करूंगी कि आप इस बिल में एक क्लाज और जोड़ दें जिससे कि जितने भी खोंचे वाले हैं या जितने भी खाने की चीजें बेचने वाले हैं उन सब का आफिशियल रजिस्ट्रेशन हो जाये । कासलीवाल जी ने भी इस बात को रखा है और मैं दोबारा इस बात को इसलिए पेश कर रही हूं ताकि आप महसूस करें कि यह बात बहुत जरूरी है ।

दूसरी बात मैं क्लाज ९० के बारे में कहना चाहती हूं । इस क्लाज के सब-क्लाज ८-ए में लिखा है :

> "vexatiously and without any reasonable grounds of suspicion seizes any article of food; or commits any other act to the injury of any person without having reason to believe that such act is necessary for the execution of his duty shall be guilty of any offence under this Act and shall be punishable for such offence."

तो मुझे इसमें एक बात पर एतराज है । मैं समझती हूं कि यह प्रावीजन यहां इसलिए

रखा गया है कि हमारे अफसर या सरकारी कर्मचारी दुकानदारों को तंग न कर सकें । पर आप सोचिये कि इसका क्या परिणाम होगा । किसी बड़े शहर में आपका सौ या दो सौ रुपये पाने वाला इंस्पेक्टर यह हिम्मत नहीं कर सकेगा कि बड़े दुकानदारों के पास जाये और जाकर यह फैसला करे कि यह चीज एडल्टरेटेड है या नहीं । वह कोई फूड एक्सपर्ट नहीं होता जैसे कि डाइरेक्टर आफ हैल्थ होते हैं। या जैसा कि फूड एनेलिस्ट होता है जिसके पास चीज जांच के लिए भेजी जाती है । इसलिए फूड इंस्पेक्टर के लिए इन मामलों में दखल देना बहुत मुश्किल होगा । उस इंस्पेक्टर के लिए अपना काम करना मुश्किल हो जायगा अगर उसको यह मालूम हो कि यह भी मुमकिन है कि उस पर उल्टा मुकदमा चल जायेगा और उसको सजा मिल जायेगी । ऐसी हालत में हैल्थ इंस्पेक्टर के लिए किसी बड़े दुकानदार से जाकर झगड़ा मोल लेने में बड़ी दिक्कत हो जायेगी । हो सकता है कि छोटे छोटे दुकानदार उसके रोब में आ जायें लेकिन जो बड़े दुकानदार हैं वह उसके रोब में नहीं आयेंगे । इसलिए अगर आप पबलिक को फायदा पहुंचाना चाहती हैं तो इसको ऐसे अमेंडेड फार्म में लाइये और इसमें से यह पनिशमेंट का प्रावीजन निकालिये क्योंकि मुझे डर है कि इसको रखने से उनको काम करने में मदद नहीं मिलेगी ।

दूसरी बात जो मुझे कहनी है वह क्लाज ११ के सम्बन्ध में है । आपने क्लाज ११ के सब-क्लाज २ में रखा है कि इंस्पेक्टर को तीन सैम्पिल बनाने पड़ेंगे । अगर दुकानदार ने सैम्पिल लेने से इन्कार कर दिया तो दो ही सैम्पिल बनाये जायंगे उनमें से एक पबलिक एनेलिस्ट को भेजा जायगा और वह फैसला करेगा कि वह चीज एडल्टरेटेड है या नहीं । मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि इस क्लाज की जरूरत क्या है । इससे कोई फायदा नहीं है । इसमें यह होना चाहिए कि फूड इंस्पेक्टर तीन पैकेट बनावे और दुकानदार को एक पैकेट लेने को मजबूर करे । अगर ऐसा नहीं होगा तो दुकानदार के लिए बहुत कुछ करने की गुंजाइश हो सकती है । अगर दुकानदार के पास पैकेट नहीं रहेगा तो वह पचास तरह की चालें चलेगा । आप जानते हैं कि अगर हम डाल डाल चलते हैं तो बिक्री करने वाले पत्ते पत्ते चलते हैं । इसलिये अगर हम एक उपाय उनके लिये करेंगे तो वह दो रास्ते निकाल लेंगे बचने के लिये, इसलिये हम उनको कोई लूपहोल या छेद ऐसा नहीं देना चाहते जिससे कि वह रास्ता बना कर अपने को बचाने की कोशिश करें ।

मुझे तीसरी बात जो कहनी है वह क्लाज १२ के बारे में है । क्लाज १२ में लिखा हुआ है :

> "Provided that such purchaser shall inform the vendor at the time of purchase of his intention to have such article so analysed."

इसका मतलब यह है कि जिस चीज को जो पर्चेजर है खरीदने वाला चाहेगा कि हम उसकी जांच करवायें तो बेचने वाले को उस चीज को पबलिक एनेलिस्ट के पास टेस्ट के लिये भेजना पड़ेगा, मैं समझती हूं कि इससे काम में बहुत ढीलापन आ जायेगा क्योंकि इतना शोर करने की क्या जरूरत है, हम तो चाहते हैं कि खोज और पड़ताल इस तरह से की जाये जिससे फूड इंस्पेक्टर और पबलिक एनेलिस्ट को ही यह मालूम हो, बेचने वाले को खबर ही नहीं होनी चाहिये कि हम आपके यहां तलाशी लेने जा रहे हैं । मैं तो अपनी स्वास्थ्य मंत्राणी जी को यह सुझाव देना चाहती हूं कि अगर आप जनता का इसमें सहयोग लेना चाहें तो बहुत सी गैर-सरकार संस्थाओं जैसे ब्वाय स्काउट्स जो रैकगनाइज्ड आर्गेनाइजेशन हैं और भी दूसरी कई वालंटेरी आर्गेनाइजेशन्स जो कि शोशल वर्क करने वाली हैं उनको भी आप इसमें काम करने का मौका दे सकेंगी । होना तो यह चाहिये कि इन संस्थाओं के कार्यकर्त्ता चुपके से और अनजाने में बेचने वालों के माल की तलाशी लें और इस तरह ही

[श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा]

आप को सही २ जानकारी उनके माल के बारे में हो सकती हैं कि मिलावट उसमें हैं कि नहीं, चेतावनी देकर तलाशी लेने के तो कोई माने नहीं रहते क्योंकि चेतावनी पाने के बाद तो वह कोई गलती और पकड़ का काम करने वाला नहीं हैं, गलती और गड़बड़ी तो वह तब करेगा जब वह देखेगा कि आप बेखबर हैं, दिल्ली भी तो यही चाहती हैं कि मालिक अंधा बना रहे, इसलिये मेरी राय में यह पहले से चेताने का प्राविजन नहीं रहना चाहिये और इसको बिल में से डिलीट करवा दें तो बड़ा अच्छा हो । जो पर्चेजर और खरीदने वाला हैं उसको इनफार्म करने की जरूरत नहीं हैं । इसलिये मैं आपसे अनुरोध करूंगी कि आप इस प्राविजन को बिल में से हटवा दें ।

चौथी बात यह हैं और जो मैं समझती हूं कि काफी जरूरी हैं कि क्लाज १२ में पबलिक एनेलिस्ट के सम्बन्ध में जो लिखा हैं तो मैं चाहती हूं कि आप उसके अन्दर एक टाइम लिमिट मुकर्रर कर दें, एक अनुमानित समय आपको रख देना चाहिये जिससे कि वह उस मियाद के अन्दर अपनी रिपोर्ट सरकार के पास भेज दें वरना आजकल दीखिये कि कचहरियों में क्या होता हैं तारीख पहले डलवाने के लिये कोर्ट के मुलाजिमों को आपको दो, चार या पांच रुपये की रिश्वत देनी पड़ती हैं, काम जल्दी कराने के लिये पबलिक को वहां काम करने वाले बाबुओं को दो आने, चार आने से लेकर पांच रुपये, और दस, दस रुपये की रिश्वत देनी पड़ती हैं तब जाकर कहीं काम बनता हैं । सैंकड़ों आदमी जो तेज कचहरी में जाते हैं वह रिश्वत देते हैं, मुझे डर हैं कि कहीं कचहरी वाली हालत यहां भी पैदा न हो जाये और होगा यह कि अगर हम चाहते हैं कि हमारा काम पबलिक एनेलिस्ट पहले करें तो हम दो, चार रुपये उनके मुहकमे वालों को दे देंगे जिससे कि वह अपनी रिपोर्ट जल्दी से दे देंगे क्योंकि जल्दी रिपोर्ट सब चाहते हैं, देर होने से खरीदने वालों का भी नुकसान होता हैं और खास कर बेचने वालों का इंटरेस्ट तो इसी में रहता हैं कि जल्द अज जल्द रिपोर्ट मिल जाये और इस तरह रिश्वतखोरी बढ़ेगी । इसलिये सरकार की तरफ से स्वंय इस बात को ठीक कर लेना चाहिये पबलिक एनेलिस्ट को अपनी रिपोर्ट सरकार को भेजने के लिये कितनी अवधि दी जायेगी और यह कोई ऐसी बड़ी बात नहीं हैं, इसके लिये बहुत कम समय रक्खा जा सकता हैं, जिसके अन्दर वह अपनी रिपोर्ट दाखिल कर दें, इसके अलावा यह भी फायदा होगा कि पबलिक एनेलिस्ट और उसके मुहकमे वाले मुस्तैद रहेंगे और काम ठीक से और चुस्ती से करेंगे अन्यथा अगर आप कोई लिमिट मुकर्रर नहीं करेंगे तो हो सकता हैं कि वह आराम में पड़ जायें और दफ्तर में दो, चार घंटे आराम से सो भी जायें तो कौन सी बात हैं । इसलिये मेरी अपील हैं कि पबलिक एनेलिस्ट को अपनी रिपोर्ट पेश करने के लिये आप एक समय और मियाद मुकर्रर कर दें जिसके अन्दर २ वह अपनी रिपोर्ट सरकार को, डाइरेक्टर आफ पबलिक हेल्थ के पास या जो खरीदने वाले हैं या बेचने वाले हैं उनके पास भेज दें ।

आखिरी बात जो मैं कहना चाहती हूं वह हो सकता हैं कि इस विषय के अनुकूल भी न हो परन्तु इस विषय से ताल्लुक अवश्य रखती हैं और वह हैं तेल और घी में मिलावट करने की बात, परन्तु सब से ज्यादा जो नुकसान खाने वालों को होता हैं वह बाजार में बिकने वाली उन मिठाइयों और चीजों से होता हैं जो खुली बिकती हैं और जिन पर मक्खियां भिनकती रहती हैं । आपने देखा होगा कि मिठाइयां कितनी गंदी जगहों पर और खुली हुई बिकती हैं और अच्छे २ लोग उस मिठाई को खरीदते हैं, शायद कुछ थोड़े से लोग जो बाजार की चीज से परहेज करते हैं न खरीदते होंगे, उन मिठाई के खोंमचों पर मक्खियां बैठी रहती हैं और जब वह उनको हलाते हैं तो इतने जोर की भिनभिनाहट और

आवाज होती है कि आधा मील तक सुनाई देती है और आप जानते हैं कि जो उसको खायेगा वह बीमार नहीं होगा तो क्या होगा, मक्खियां तो सारी बीमारियों की जड़ हैं। मैं चाहूंगी कि जितने रजिस्टर्ड आपके खोमचे वाले हैं उनको यह आज्ञा दी जाय कि वह खाने पीने की चीजों को ढक कर रक्खें और उनको खुला न बेचें और अगर वह शीशे से अपनी चीजों को नहीं ढकते हैं और मक्खियों से नहीं बचाते हैं तो उन्हें अपना सामान बेचने की इजाजत नहीं होनी चाहिये, उन्हें कोई हक नहीं है कि वह इस तरह लाखों आदमियों की जिन्दगियों को बरबाद करें और उनकी सेहत को नुकसान पहुंचायें, उनको इस तरह पैसा कमाने का अधिकार नहीं होना चाहिये। मैं इसलिये आपसे अनुरोध करूंगी कि उसमें एक इस तरह का क्लाज एँड करवाने की कृपा करें, मैं जानती नहीं कि उसमें इस तरह का क्लाज जुड़वाने की कहां तक गुंजायश होगी लेकिन जो भी हो यह इंतजाम जरूर होना चाहिये कि जो बेचने वाले हैं वह शीशे में ढक कर अपनी चीजों को बेचें खुले में उनको बेचने की इजाजत नहीं होनी चाहिये। ऐसा होने पर हमारी सेहत का बचाव होगा और ग्राहक को साफ सुथरा और मक्खियों से बचा हुआ सामान मिल सकेगा.....

11 A.M.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): It is already provided for.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: No, no.

Shri S. S. More: The Bill provides for punishing those who keep food under insanitary conditions.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: That is very broad. So, it cannot cover that. Flies do not come under insanitary conditions alone.

Mr. Chairman: No private talks between Members please.

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : अन्त में और अधिक न कह कर जैसा अध्यक्ष महोदय ने आपसे कहा था कि वनस्पति के बारे में ज्यादा से ज्यादा कोशिश करें और उसमें कोई उपयुक्त रंग अवश्य मिलायें ताकि असली और नकली घी में लोग पहचान कर सकें और आज जो यह मिलावट चल रही है बंद हो जाये। वाकई यह आपकी मिनिस्ट्री को देश ने बहुत बड़ा चैलेंज दिया है कि आप कब तक इस काम को पूरा कर सकते हैं और मैं उन अफसरों से जो ऑफिशयल गैलरी में बैठे हुए हैं उनसे भी अपील करूंगी कि आपकी लोकसभा में बेइज्जती हो रही है, अभी तक आप कोई ऐसा रंग नहीं निकाल सके हैं जो वनस्पति में मिलाया जा सके जिससे यह एडल्ट्रेशन खत्म हो, इसलिये आपको जल्द से जल्द कोई कलर तलाश करके देना चाहिये। मुझे इससे बहस नहीं कि डालडा घी में चलता रहे या न चलता रहे, परन्तु मुझे इसमें जरूर एतराज है कि वह अभी तक असली घी से अलग नहीं किया गया है, कलर करके उसको असली घी से अलग करना बहुत जरूरी है ताकि उसको कोई असली घी में मिला कर जनता को धोखा न दे सके और सेहत बर्बाद न कर सके।

मैं माननीया मंत्राणी को बधाई देती हूं कि उन्होंने इस बिल को फिर से पुनर्जीवित दिया है, इस सेशन में आता भी कि नहीं, मुझे तो कोई उसके आने की उम्मीद नहीं थी, इसलिये मैं उनको बहुत बधाई देती हूं कि वह इस बिल को लाई कि बहुत ही जरूरी और महत्वपूर्ण है सेशन के शुरू में लायीं। इतना कह कर अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपना आसन ग्रहण करती हूं।

श्री एच० सी० दिक्षित (जिला अलीगढ़) : सभापति जी, इस विधेयक पर कल से बहस चल रही है, मैं उस सारी बहस को बड़े गौर से सुनता आया हूं। सभी सदस्यों ने अपने भिन्न भिन्न विचार प्रकट किये हैं किन्तु वनस्पति घी का सब ने समान रूप से विरोध किया है और मैं समझता हूं कि हमारी सरकार पर यह एक कलंक है कि देश के अन्दर इसके प्रति इतना व्यापक विरोध होने पर भी सरकार ने इस पर अब तक

[श्री एस० सी० सिंघल]

कोई रुकावट नहीं डाली । मैं आशा करता हूं कि यह बिल जब पास हो जायेगा तो सरकार कोई न कोई कदम इस घी को रोकने के लिये अवश्य उठायेगी । कुछ लोगों ने यह समझ कर कि बाजार में जो घी मिलता है वह असल में वनस्पति घी है इसलिये उन्होंने घी के बजाय मक्खन खाना शुरू किया, लेकिन मक्खन में भी बड़ी भारी मिलावट शुरू हो गई है और वह मारगरीन है जो मक्खन का सब्स्टीट्यूट है और हम देखते हैं कि आज मक्खन भी शुद्ध नहीं मिलता और उसमें भी मिलावट हो रही है । यह मारगरीन मेरी राय में बेजीटेबुल घी से भी ज्यादा खराब है । इसलिये मेरा अनुरोध है कि बेजीटेबुल घी के साथ मारगरीन के ऊपर भी कोई न कोई रुकावट अवश्य लगाइये ।

सभापति जी, यह जो मिलावट के विकार की समस्या हर एक देश में आयी और हर एक देश ने इस को समझने की कोशिश की और इस समस्या को हल किया । अमरीका और योरोप के हर बड़े बड़े देश ने इस समस्या को हल कर लिया है । हमें अफसोस है कि हमारे देश की हर प्रान्तीय सरकार ने कोशिश की लेकिन उनके कोशिश करने पर भी यह बीमारी बढ़ती गयी और आज यह भारी विषमता के साथ मौजूद है । हर कार्य का कोई न कोई कारण अवश्य होता है । मेरी समझ में इस विकार का खास कारण हमारे देश में यह है कि हमारा देश बहुत गरीब है, बहुत कंगाली की हालत में है और हमारे लोगों की खरीदने की शक्ति बहुत गिरी हुई है और हर एक गाहक चाहता है कि उसे सस्ते से सस्ते दाम में चीजें मिलें और जिसका नतीजा यह होता है कि चीज जरूर सस्ती मिल जाती है लेकिन वह सस्ती चीज बुरी क्वालिटी की होती है, और उसमें भारी मिलावट होती है । यह खास कारण है । दूसरा कारण यह है कि जिन इन्सपैक्टरों के हाथ में यह काम सौंपा जाता है, वे भी बहुत गिर हुये हैं, करप्ट हैं और बिगड़े हुये हैं । उनकी गिरावट का खास कारण यह है कि उन की तन्ख्वाहें कम हैं । सेलेक्शन ठीक प्रकार से नहीं किया जाता है और बनिये लोग या दूकानदार लोग मिलावट कर के रुपया बनाने की कोशिश करते हैं तो वे लोग भी रिश्वतें ले कर दूकानदारों का साथ देते हैं । जब तक इन्स्पेक्टर्स का सुधार नहीं होगा तब तक एडल्टरेशन बिल का पास होना बेफायदा है, इस से कोई खास लाभ नहीं होगा ।

मुझे एक बात यह कहनी है कि हमारी मंत्रिणी जी महात्मा गांधी की बड़ी भारी भक्तों में से हैं, उन के अनुयायियों में से हैं । वह गांधियन स्कूल की रही हैं । गांधी जी ने कुछ चीजों का हमेशा विरोध किया है जिन में से कि एक पालिश्ड चावल है, दूसरा सफेद चीनी और तीसरा सफेद आटा, चौथा वनस्पति घी । मुझे बड़ा अचम्भा होता है कि हमारी मंत्रिणी जी ने इन चारों में से किसी पर कोई रोक लगाने की कोशिश नहीं की । हमारे देश में जो अन्न खाया जाता है वह सिर्फ १७०० कैलोरीज ताप पैदा करता है जब कि दूसरे देशों में, खास कर अमरीका और योरोप के बड़े बड़े देशों में २५०० से ले कर ३००० कैलोरीज तक का अन्न खाया जाता है । साइन्स के एक बड़े पंडित ने कहा है कि एक आदमी अगर घंटे भर बगैर काम किये रहे तो वह करीब करीब १०० कैलोरीज हीट खर्च करेगा । हमारे देश में अगर देखा जाय तो कम से कम २४०० कैलोरीज एक बैठे ठाले आदमी को चाहिये । जबकि वह सिर्फ १८०० कैलोरीज ही पाता है । तो हमारे यहां जो अन्न खाया जाता है वह कम तादाद में खाया जाता है गरीबी की वजह से । अगर यह अन्न भी हमें बुरी हालत में मिले तो आप समझ लीजिये कि हमारा क्या होगा । हर अन्न को पचाने के लिये विटैमिन्स और मिनरल्स की खास जरूरत होती है । बगैर विटैमिन्स और मिनरल्स के अन्न मरा हुआ अन्न है । बगैर इनके अन्न पच नहीं सकता ।

चीनी जब सफेद बनती है तो उस में से कैल्शियम, आयरन और विटामिन्स ए और बी सब खत्म हो जाते हैं। वे शीरे में आ जाते हैं। इतनी बीमारियां बच्चों की आज कल हो रही हैं और सब सफेद चीनी के कारण हैं। मैं नहीं कहता कि चीनी का बनना बन्द हो जाये। लेकिन सरकार कंट्रोल करे कि चीनी से शीरा इतना न निकाला जाये कि उस में से कैल्शियम और आयरन और अन्य जरूरी चीजें खत्म हो जायें। अगर चीनी में कुछ पीलापन रहे तो जायके में कोई खराबी नहीं आती है, सिर्फ शक्ल में खराबी जरूर होती है। लेकिन शक्ल की तरफ लोगों को नहीं जाना चाहिये, क्वालिटी की तरफ जायें। मेरी मंत्रिणी महोदया से प्रार्थना है कि सरकार चीनी के मिल्स को कंट्रोल करे और इस तरह से कंट्रोल करे कि चीनी जो बने उस में कैल्शियम, आयरन और विटामिन्स रहे आयें।

इस के बाद मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारा सब से बड़ा अन्न है आटा, वह भी खास तौर से गेहूं का आटा। गेहूं से जो सफेद आटा बनता है उस के लिये भी एक साइन्टिस्ट ने कहा है कि उस में कोई भी मिनरल और विटामिन नहीं रहता है। उस ने लिखा है कि गेहूं में १०० ग्राम्स पर पचीस यूनिट्स विटामिन्स रहते हैं लेकिन जब सफेद आटा बन जाता है तो उस में विटामिन्स का नाम तक नहीं रहता। उस में विटामिन बी०१ २५० से ३०० तक होता है, लेकिन जब सफेद आटा बन जाता है तो २० या ४० ही रह जाता है। चावल में भी यही हालत है। पालिश करने पर राइस में भी बिलकुल विटामिन्स नहीं रह जाते। यदि हमारा राइस पालिश न हो, उसमें कुछ पीलापन रहे तो जितनी बीमारी आज पैदा हो रही हैं सब खतम हो जायें। मेरा कहना यह है कि आटे के साथ साथ आप चावल के पालिश पर भी रोक लगाइये जिसमें कि उनकी फूड वैल्यू गिरने न पाये। अमरीका में सन् १९४७ में एक रेगुलेशन पास हुआ फैडरल गवर्नमेन्ट की तरफ से। उस में यह है कि सफेद आटे की डबल रोटी जो बाजार में आयेगी विटामिन्स और मिनरल्स की जो कमी सफेद आटे की वजह से हो गई है उसके पूरा होने पर ही बिक सकेगी, और जो दुकानदार उस कमी को पूरा नहीं करेगा उस पर मिलावट का चार्ज लगाया जायेगा। कमी को पूरा करना वहां लाजिमी है। इंगलैंड ने भी कुछ अंश में सफेद आटे पर रुकावट लगाई है। मेरी प्रार्थना मंत्रिणी महोदया से यह है कि यहां के मील के आटे में जो कमी हो जाती है उसकी भी पूर्ति होनी चाहिये।

एक माननीय सदस्य : यह बिल विधवा किया जाये।

श्री एस० सी० सिंघल : तीसरी चीज यह है कि इस बिल ने खाद्य पदार्थों को कलर करने की इजाजत दे दी है। मैं समझता हूं कि इससे बुरी चीज कोई नहीं है। जितने कलर अर्थात् रंग हैं वे कोलतार से बनते हैं और कोलतार से जो चीज बनाई जाती है मैं समझता हूं कि वे बड़ी हानिकारक हैं। खाने के पदार्थों में उसे मिलाना विष मिलाने के तुल्य है। इन रंगों का इस्तेमाल खूब हो रहा है, खास तौर से शर्बतों में। मेरी प्रार्थना है कि इसकी जांच करवाई जाये और इसको रोकने की कोशिश की जाये।

इसके बाद प्रिजर्वेटिव्ज का सवाल आता है प्रिजर्वेटिव्ज की भी कुछ अंश में इस बिल में इजाजत दे दी है। प्रिजर्वेटिव्ज कोई अच्छी चीज नहीं है। कुछ प्रिजर्वेटिव्ज ऐसे हैं, जो माइक्रो-आरगेनिज्म की ग्रोथ को रोकते हैं और कुछ ऐसे हैं जो उन कीड़ों की पैदावार को छिपाते हैं। नुक्स को बना रहता है नुक्स को छिपाते हैं। नुक्स तो बना रहता है लेकिन वह हम को नजर नहीं आता है, उसकी फिजिकल शेप को बनाये रखते हैं और बेक्टीरियास बढ़ते रहते हैं। जो प्रिजर्वेटिव्ज ऐसे हैं जो बेक्टीरिया की ग्रोथ को मार देते हैं। जो बेक्टीरिया को मार सकते हैं वे आदमी को भी नुकसान पहुंचा सकते हैं। जो प्रिजर्वेटिव्ज इस ग्रोथ को नहीं रोकते हैं

[श्री एस० सी० सिंघल]

वे सिर्फ फिजिकल शेप को रोकते हैं, अर्थात् माइक्रोब्स को फैलने से नहीं रोकते हैं उनसे कोई फायदा नहीं हैं । जैसे मिसाल दूध की हैं । जो दूध को बिगड़ने से रोकता हैं वह सोहागा होता हैं वह दूध को फटने से रोकता हैं । दूध के अन्दर जो बैक्टीरियास हैं उनको बढ़ने से नहीं रोकता और उनमें से बहुत से बैक्टीरिया बीमारी फैलाने वाले होते हैं और वे बढ़ते रहते हैं । मैंने देखा हैं कि आगरा और अलीगढ़ में, जहां से मैं आया हूं, कि लोग बाइसिकिल पर दूध लेकर बेचने आते हैं । दूध फट न जाये इसलिये वे उसमें सोहागा डालते हैं । इन सब बातों को देखते हुये मुझे यह प्रार्थना करनी हैं कि आप इन प्रिजर्वेटिव्ज पर भी जांच पड़ताल करें और इनमें भी रुकावट डालें । मंत्रिणी महोदया से प्रार्थना हैं कि जो सुझाव मैंने रक्खे हैं उन पर गौर करें । अगर उन पर सरकार अमल करे तो मैं विश्वास दिलाता हूं कि बीमारी बहुत कम हो जायेगी । डाक्टरों के बिल बढ़े हुये हैं वह बहुत कम हो जायेंगे । जितना हमको खाने को मिल रहा हैं उसी में हम अपनी पचास की सदी तन्दुरुस्ती में सुधार कर लेंगे । बीमारी से बच जायेंगे ।

इसलिये मेरी प्रार्थना हैं कि आप मेरे विचारों पर गौर करें ।

Mr. Chairman: Shri Sinhasan Singh. I propose to call the hon. Minister at 11-30. So, I would request the hon. Member to take only ten minutes.

श्री सिंहासन सिंह (जिला गोरखपुर, दक्षिण) : सभापति जी, मुझे आप ने थोड़ा अवसर दिया इसके लिए धन्यवाद हैं । यह विधेयक जो आज भवन के सामने हैं यह बहुत दिनों से अपेक्षित रहा हैं । मुल्क में चारों तरफ से यह मांग थी कि हमें शुद्ध भोजन मिले । आज इस देश में दुकानों पर यह नौबत आ गयी हैं कि शुद्ध घी और शुद्ध दूध नहीं मिलता। यह देश के लिए कलंक की बात हैं कि भारत में शुद्ध चीजों के नाम से अशुद्ध चीजों का प्रचार हो रहा हैं । इस विधेयक के लिए चारों तरफ से बधाइयां आयी हैं । लेकिन ऐसे ही विधेयक राज्यों में भी हैं । उत्तर प्रदेश में १९५० में शुद्ध भोजन विधेयक पास हुआ लेकिन आज उसका क्या परिणाम आया हैं ? इससे भोजन में कितनी शुद्धि हो गयी हैं यह देखने पर पता लगेगा कि जहां पहले ९२ आने अशुद्धि थी वहां अब ९६ आने अशुद्धि हैं । अभी चार पांच रोज हुए गोरखपुर के हैल्थ डाक्टर मेरे पास आये हुए थे । उन्होंने बताया कि उत्तर प्रदेश ने अपने विधेयक को एनफोर्स किया हैं जिसके अनुसार सब खाना बेचने वाले दुकानदारों को लाइसेंस लेना होता हैं । यह काम सैनिटरी इंस्पेक्टर्स और जो लोकल बाडीज के अधिकारी हैं उनके सुपुर्द हैं । उन सबों ने हर दुकान से दस बीस रुपये माहवार बांध लिये हैं और उनकी आमदनी जो पहले १०० रुपये की थी वह दो सौ और चार सौ माहवार हो गयी हैं । इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जबतक हमारे दिमाग की हालत नहीं सुधरेगी, हमारे विचार का ढंग नहीं बदलेगा, हमारे मुनाफाखोरी की मनोवृत्ति नहीं बदलेगी, तबतक हम केवल कानूनों के द्वारा अपनी चीजों को शुद्ध नहीं कर पायेंगे ।

अब आप इसी विधेयक को देखिये । एक तरफ यह विधेयक शुद्धि का प्रचार कर रहा हैं । लेकिन अगर आप इसके अन्दर जाकर देखें तो मालूम होगा कि यह उन समाज के द्रोहियों को सहायता दे रहा हैं और वकीलों को मौका मिलेगा कि वह साबित कर पायें कि यह चीज बिल्कुल सही हैं और जो सही हैं वह गलत हैं । यही चीज दफा ११ में हैं जिसका जिक्र श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा ने किया हैं । जो फूड कमेटीज बनेंगी इनमें कौन कौन आदमी होंगे । इनमें कोई उपभोक्ता नहीं हैं । आपको देखने से मालूम होगा कि इनमें उपभोक्ताओं का प्रतिनिधि एक भी नहीं हैं । इसमें माल बनाने वालों के प्रतिनिधि हैं । इसमें डाक्टर हैं, और जो चीजों के बनाने वाले हैं उनके

प्रतिनिधि हैं, लेकिन खाने वालों का कोई आदमी नहीं हैं। हम यह नहीं कहते कि डाक्टर खाने वाला नहीं हैं लेकिन पब्लिक के पक्ष का कोई आदमी नहीं हैं या पार्लियामेंट का या किसी राज्य का कोई आदमी नहीं हैं।

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कल आप ने भी कहा, और लोगों ने भी कहा कि मुकदमा चलाने का हक उस व्यक्ति को नहीं हैं जिसको कि धोखा दिया गया हैं। यह एक नयी चीज हैं। हमारी यू० पी० सरकार ने जो कानून बनाया हैं उसमें भी यह हैं कि दावा दाखिल हो सकता हैं केवल लोकल आथारिटी के कहने पर। हम जो कानून बना रहे हैं उसके अन्दर इंस्पेक्टर को भी अधिकार नहीं हैं कि वह दावा कर सके। सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट करे या स्टेट गवर्नमेंट करे या जिसको वे अधिकार दें वह करे। लेकिन उस आदमी को यह अधिकार नहीं हैं कि जिसने माल खरीदा और पब्लिक एनेलिस्ट के पास भेजा। वह साबित होने पर भी कि वह चीज अशुद्ध हैं उस आदमी को दावा करने का अधिकार नहीं हैं। आप चाहते हैं कि शुद्ध चीजें बिकें। लेकिन आप बिक्रेता की तो रक्षा करते हैं और खरीदने वाले को सिर्फ यह अधिकार देते हैं कि वह पब्लिक एनेलिस्ट के पास भेज सकता हैं। लेकिन ऐसा करने के पहले उसे दुकानदार को इत्तला करनी चाहिए कि वह भेजना चाहता हैं। इत्तला करने पर दुकानदार सौ में ९५ को सौ दो सौ रुपया देकर कहेगा कि मत भेजो। दुकानदार उसके पैरों पड़ जायेगा और कहेगा कि तुम्हारा अगर दो रुपये का नुकसान हो गया हैं तो हम से सौ रुपये ले लो और रहने दो। यह जो सूचना देने का क्लाज हैं इसका यही नतीजा होगा। यह एक प्रकार का प्रतिबन्ध हैं। दूसरा प्रतिबन्ध यह हैं कि अगर वह भेजे तो पहले प्रेस्क्राइब्ड फीस दाखिल करे और वह फीस उस समय वापस होगी जब कि यह साबित हो जाये कि चीज अशुद्ध हैं। पता नहीं कि आप कितनी फीस मुकर्रर करेंगे। फिर खरीदने वाले के पास उतना रुपया हो या न हो कि वह भेज सके। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि जो खाने वाला हैं और जो समाज सेवक हैं वह इस काम को करे तो आपको इसमें संशोधन करना चाहिए। जैसा कि श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा ने कहा कि बाच स्काउट या दूसरे सोशल सेवक इस काम को कर सकते हैं। लेकिन अगर उनको यह फीस जमा करनी होगी तो जो उमंग हम में होगी वह ठंडी हो जायेगी। आपने यह अधिकार दिया हैं कि वह पब्लिक एनेलिस्ट को भेज सकता हैं और अगर भेजने के बाद यह साबित हुआ कि वह चीज शुद्ध नहीं हैं तो फीस रिफंड हो जायेगी। मैं चाहता हूं कि आप इस क्रम को उलट दें। पहले फीस लेने के बजाय आप बाद को फीस लें अगर यह साबित हो जाय कि वह चीज अशुद्ध नहीं हैं। आप ऐसा नियम कर दीजिये कि अगर माल सच्चा निकला तो भेजने वाले से फीस वसूल की जाये। मैं यह इसलिए सुझाव दे रहा हूं कि अगर किसी को १२ रुपये रिफंड कराने होते हैं तो १६ रुपये उसके उस रिफंड कराने में लग जाते हैं। इसलिए मैं कहता हूं कि आप इसको उलटा कर दीजिये। अगर वह फीस दाखिल करके चीज को भेजेगा तो उसको रिफंड करने में बड़ी दिक्कत होगी। ऐसी हालत में कोई आदमी भेजेगा ही नहीं। तो आपने इस तरह से ये दो प्रतिबन्ध लगा रखे हैं।

तीसरा प्रतिबन्ध यह रखा हैं कि आप उसे दावा करने का अधिकार नहीं देते हैं। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि यह काम आगे बढ़े तो ऐसा नियम रखें कि जो आदमी खरीदे अगर वह समझता हैं कि माल सही नहीं हैं तो उसे इत्तला करने की जरूरत नहीं हैं। खरीदने वाला महाजन से रसीद हासिल करे कि फलां दाम में उसने फलां चीज खरीदी। कानूनन दुकानदार को रसीद देना लाजिमी होना चाहिए। अगर खरीदार चाहता हैं तो दुकानदार को रसीद जरूर देनी चाहिए कि फलां आदमी ने उसके यहां से अमुक वस्तु अमुक दाम पर ली हैं। एनेलिस्ट के पास से रिपोर्ट आने के बाद वह

[श्री सिंहासन सिंह]

रसीद इस बात का सबूत रहेगी कि यह चीज फलां आदमी की दुकान से खरीदी गयी हैं। इन चीजों में आपको तरमीम कर देनी चाहिए। जैसा कि हमारे राजवीर्य जी ने कहा था कि हमको हिम्मत से यह काम करना चाहिए ताकि हम इसको सही तरीके से कर सकें। अगर वाकई हमको कुछ करना हैं तो हम वैसा कानून बनायें।

इसके अलावा आपने एक और प्रतिबन्ध रखा हैं। पबलिक एनेलिस्ट के पास कोई चीज भेजी गयी और उसकी रिपोर्ट आयी कि वह चीज गड़बड़ हैं। उसके बाद दुकानदार यह दरख्वास्त दे सकता हैं कि यह चीज जो पबलिक एनेलिस्ट के यहां से आयी हैं उसे सेंट्रल लेबारेटरी को भेजा जाये। अब सेंट्रल लेबारेटरी का जो फैसला होगा वह फायनल होगा। अगर उसने कह दिया कि पबलिक एनेलिस्ट की रिपोर्ट गलत हैं तो उसकी बात आखिरी मानी जायेगी। पहले बिल में यह प्रावीजन नहीं था। बाद में यह प्रावीजन बढ़ाया गया हैं। इससे मालूम होता हैं कि बड़े बड़े लोगों का असर कमेटी पर पड़ा हैं जो बिल के अन्दर यह चीज आ गयी। दफा १२ में यह दिया हुआ हैं कि जो उनकी ओपीनियन आखिरी होगी यानी जो सेंट्रल लेबारेटरी की ओपीनियन होगी वह आखिरी होगी और उस पर किसी को एतराज नहीं हो सकता। अगर बड़े बड़े सेठों का मामला हुआ और पैसा चल गया तो वह एक बात को सही होते हुए भी गलत कह देंगे और गलत होते हुए भी सही कह देंगे। होना यह चाहिए कि अदालत के सामने दोनों रायें हों, पबलिक एनेलिस्ट की और सेंट्रल लेबारेटरी की। और अदालत को यह हक होना चाहिए कि वह देखे कि इन दोनों में कौन ठीक हैं। लेकिन आप इसको बन्द कर रहे हैं। इसके मानी हैं कि आप दुकानदार को प्रोत्साहन दे रहे हैं कि वह अपने मामले को ठीक कर ले। दूसरी चीज हमने इस बिल में देखी कि जो उत्तर प्रदेश के बिल में हैं, वह यहां नहीं हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश के बिल में दफा ४० में हैं कि जहां दफा ४० के अन्दर कोई चीज पकड़ी जाये, वह तुरन्त मजिस्ट्रेट के सामने भेजी जाये और मजिस्ट्रेट अगर समझे कि वह चीज खराब हैं तो वह उसको बर्बाद कर दे, मगर इस मौजूदा हमारे बिल में न कहीं बर्बादी करने का जिक्र हैं और न चीजों को जाया करने का सवाल हैं। बिड़ला मिल में तेल बनता हैं, मुझ से एक महाजन ने कहा कि बड़े २ लोग जो मस्टर्ड आयल के बनाने वाले हैं वह मस्टर्ड आयल में तीसी मिला देते हैं, लेकिन चूंकि वे बड़े लोग हैं इसलिये उनका कुछ नहीं होता, छोटा एंग्जामिनर बतलाता हैं कि इसमें तीसी मिली हुई हैं, लेकिन उससे बड़ा राय देता हैं कि इसमें मिलावट नहीं हैं और वह प्योर मस्टर्ड आयल मान कर एंगमार्क लगा दिया जाता हैं। अब तो तीसी के तेल के अलावा मोबील आयल भी मिलाया जाने लगा हैं और कहने को वे बड़े ईमानदार बनते हैं। इसके अलावा इस बिल की परिभाषा में एक बड़ी आश्चर्यजनक चीज दी हुई हैं कि अगर किसी चीज में कोई इनफीरियर क्वालिटी की चीज को मिलाया जाये और वह इंजूरियस न हो तो वह मिलावट न समझी जाये। कोई इनफीरियर क्वालिटी की चीज मिलायी जाये और उससे कोई इंजूरियस एफेक्ट न पड़े तो उसको एडल्ट्रेशन न माना जाये। अब डालडा के बारे में झगड़ा चल रहा हैं कि नुकसानदेह हैं कि नहीं लेकिन मैं पूछता हूं कि यह कहां तक उचित हैं कि डालडा का प्रचार करने के हेतु इस प्रकार पबलिक में लिखा जाये कि डालडा खाने वाली औरत सब से ज्यादा नाची, चार, पांच घंटे लगातार नाची। हमको इस तरह जनता को गुमराह तो नहीं करना चाहिये। आपकी इस परिभाषा के मुताबिक डालडा जो कि इनफीरियर क्वालिटी का होता हैं घी में मिला दिया गया तो वह आपकी इस डेफनीशन के मुताबिक एडल्ट्रेशन नहीं हुआ...

Shri S. S. More: Do you disagree with her statement?

Shri Sinhasan Singh: I agree with her statement, so I say:

इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि डालडा जैसा कि कुछ डाक्टरों की राय है कि इंजूरियस नहीं है वह अगर घी में मिक्स करा गया तो वह इंजूरियस नहीं होगा और मैं समझता हूं कि यह इंजूरियस के अल्फाज जो इस बिल में रक्खे हैं उसके मुताबिक तो उन पर कोई केस ही नहीं चल सकता और इसके अन्दर तो बड़े २ जो डालडा और दूसरे वनस्पति के मिल वाले हैं वह इस डेफनीशन के मुताबिक बच जायेंगे।

मैं चाहता हूं कि आप जरा इस चीज पर ध्यान दें कि एक तरफ तो हम चाहते हैं कि यह मिलावट की बीमारी हमारे यहां बंद हो और दूसरी तरफ बिल में हम इस तरह पास कर रहे हैं कि जिसके पास हो जाने से कोई कोर्ट कनविक्ट नहीं कर सकेगा। मेरी राय में मिलावट से भयंकर अपराध दूसरा नहीं है, इसके जरिये नेशन के स्वास्थ्य को बरबाद किया जा रहा है और किसी ने ठीक ही कहा था कि कत्ल तो वर्ष में एक आध बार हुआ करते हैं लेकिन यह रोजाना का कत्ल स्लो पायजनिंग है। इस तरह का अपराध करने वाले हजारों लाखों रुपया बेईमानी से और लोगों को धोखा देकर कमाते हैं और उनकी सेहत बिगाड़ने के वास्ते जिम्मेदार होते हैं लेकिन मैं देखता हूं कि हमारे इस मौजूदा बिल में ऐसे अपराधी जो पकड़े जांय उनकी चीजों के कानफिसिकेशन का भी प्राविजन नहीं है। अगर उनको यह पता हो कि अगर हम पकड़े गये तो हम बर्बाद हो जायेंगे, हमारी चीजें जाया कर दी जायेंगी तो शायद उनकी अकल ठिकाने आ जाये और वह ऐसी हरकतों से बाज आयें। तीसरे आफेंस में कम से कम सजा उनके लिये दो वर्ष की है, अब भला आप ही बतलाइये कि दो साल की सजा और २० या २५ हजार का जुर्माना ऐसे लोगों पर करने से क्या बनता है जिन्होंने इस बेईमानी के धंधे में लाखों रुपये कमाये हों, जहां करोड़ों का सवाल हो, वहां २०, २५ हजार का जुर्माना करने से क्या बनता है। एक महाजन हमसे कहता था कि साहब हम तो लक्ष्मी का पूजन करते हैं और जब लक्ष्मी की हमारे ऊपर कृपा रहती है तो भगवान स्वयं उसके पीछे खुद आ जाते हैं। हम तो सदा लक्ष्मी को सही या गलत तरीके से जैसे भी बने अपने घर में लाने की कोशिश में लगे रहते हैं और भगवान भी लक्ष्मी के पीछे दौड़ते हैं और इस तरह गड़बड़ करके जैसे भी बने लक्ष्मी से अपना घर भरते हैं। अगर आप वाकई चाहते हैं कि कानून सही हो, मजबूत हो और हम ठीक तरीके से उसको बर्ते, तो हमको कानून ऐसा बनाना चाहिये जो खुद बखुद एक भयंकर रूप धारण करे जिससे मिलावट करने वालों के दिल में आतंक हो और डर हो कि हमारे साथ कानून सख्ती से पेश आयेगा और कोई रियाअत नहीं करेगा, उसके दिल में यह ख्याल न हो कि वह अदालत की शरण लेकर कानून के पंजे से बच जायेगा। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं एक नाउम्मेदी के साथ इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूं और उम्मीद करता हूं कि हमारी स्वास्थ्य मंत्राणी अपने संशोधनों और दूसरों के दिये हुए संशोधनों द्वारा इस बिल को ऐसा बना कर पास करेंगी जिससे इन चोर बाजार और दंश और समाज के शत्रुओं को यह यकीन हो जायगा कि अब हम बचने वाले नहीं हैं और इन्हें हमारे अपराध की कड़ी सजा मिलने वाली है।

जहां तक वनस्पति को कलर करने का प्रश्न है, इस दिशा में हमारी यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट ने वनस्पति को कलर करने के लिये सन् १९४६ में प्रस्ताव पास कर दिया था लेकिन अभी तक रंग नहीं मिला, वैसे आप रोज देखते हैं कि लेमनेड और सोडावाटर रंगा हुआ होता है और मिठाई रंगी हुई बिकती है और मैं तो श्री विनोबा भावे की बात से पूर्णतः सहमत हूं कि वनस्पति का कारोबार करने वालों को, कारखाने वालों को हम इस बिल के अन्दर ६ महीने का टाईम दें दें कि अगर वे लोग ६ महीने के अन्दर कोई वनस्पति में मिलाने के लिये उपयुक्त रंग नहीं तलाश करेंगे तो हम

[श्री सिंहासन सिंह]

इसका मैनुफैक्चर बंद कर देंगे तो आप देखियेगा कि तुरन्त एक ही महीने के भीतर आवश्यक रंग पैदा हो जायगा और उसके लिये न गवर्नमेंट को दिक्कत उठानी पड़ेगी और न किसी और को दिक्कत उठानी पड़ेगी, इसलिये मैं श्री विनोबा भावे की बात का समर्थन करता हूं कि हम वनस्पति घी के बनाने वालों को इस बात के लिये मजबूर करें कि वह शीघ्र ऐसा रंग तलाश करके वनस्पति को कलर करें जिससे असली और नकली घी में फर्क किया जा सके, अब गवर्नमेंट को सख्ती के साथ उनसे पेश आना चाहिये नरमी से काम चलने वाला नहीं है, कानून ऐसा सख्त बनना चाहिये जिससे लोगों के दिलों में डर पैदा हो।

Mr. Chairman: May I know the minimum time that Shri Dr. Jaisoorya proposes to take?

Dr. Jaisoorya (Medak): You give me the maximum time that you can; I shall make my observations within that time.

Mr. Chairman: I propose to call the hon. Minister at 11-30.

Dr. Jaisoorya: You may fix the time-limit. I shall cut the coat according to the cloth.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member can speak for a minimum time according to his own estimate.

Dr. Jaisoorya: First of all, according to one of the latest United Nations report, I am sorry I have not got the exact reference here, in spite of the improvement of the food situation in India, there is calorific deficiency; that is, the amount of food that we are taking is still deficient in regard to calories. Now, we are concerning ourselves not only with the quantity of food which is deficient, but also the quality of food which is deficient. That means that we are trying to prevent the already bad quality of food from deteriorating further, deliberately or otherwise.

I find that this is a Central measure. I do not know what the purpose is. Is it to replace the provincial measures which we already have? According to my information, almost every State has got an Act already. For instance, Madras has one from as early as 1918 to prevent food adulteration. I expect that the idea of the Central Government is to make these food adulteration laws uniform and I think I am correct. If you want to make a thing effective, it must have relation to reality. That is the first point. Secondly, a law should not aim to do more than what is practicable. Thirdly, the machinery must be of such a high standard that the law could be put into practice.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh (Hazaribagh West): It is impossible.

Dr. Jaisoorya: I welcome any attempt at making a law uniform. We have to examine what are the difficulties and why is adulteration prevalent on such a national scale, shall I say, here in India and less in certain highly advanced countries like, let us say, Sweden. The fact is that in India, the producer does not sell to the consumer. In between, there is that gigantic racket known as the middleman, who handles, stores, hoards, sells and adulterates foodstuffs. We have to make sure at what levels adulteration is taking place, whether with the wholesaler or the retailer.

An Hon. Member: Producers also.

Dr. Jaisoorya: It is not a rural problem. It is a problem where there is concentration of floating population, for instance, in cities, who are not producers but consumers. Then the question of supply of food, i.e., through the licensed dealers, licensed hotels, restaurants, eating houses etc., where the problem of sanitation and quality arises. Every municipality, a well-run municipality, has identical laws with regard to quality of food, whether it is in sanitary and hygienic condition or not. All these laws are there. There is nothing new about it. Now, what

this law tries to make out is this. If somewhere in a small municipality or principality or some little village an adulteration has taken place, not so much adulteration but shall we say deterioration in the quality of food, let us say it is decomposed, I do not know by what means you intend to bring it here, whether by hermetic sealing or vacuumatic sealing. I do not know whether by the time it arrives here and the gentleman concerned analyses it, it will be in the same state of decomposition as previously. These are things which we have to think of. You have to. Every municipality, every Health Department of the States has got its own chemical analyst. Why do you want a Central laboratory except to lay down standards. It is trying to centralise a thing which is an impossibility, because it is better handled on the spot.

Now, we are talking about this problem because the entire food movement in this country is in the hands of heavy financiers. It is they who create the quality of food, it is they who create the artificial scarcity and raise the prices, for instance, of edible oils. You have known that there has been an uproar because of the price of groundnuts going up artificially. All these groundnuts have been taken away from the villages through forward markets and are concentrated in the hands of *vanaspati* and soap manufacturers, so that the man who actually produces has to go ten miles to a bigger town to buy four annas edible oil. In Malabar where the man produces the coconut oil, he has no oil for his own consumption. It is going into the manufacture of soap, into Vandenburg's margarine to be exported outside. Therefore, if you want to prevent adulteration of food, you have got to bring in a law whereby these large hoarders do not corner. in regard to the groundnut trade I can tell you the whole crisis has been treated by the manufacturers of Sunlight soap. Vandenburg is the biggest purchaser. Therefore, the man who himself produces is denied the oil. This is a big paradox.

Now, how are you going to send your inspector to a remote village, who is not an analyst? He can at the utmost say it is decomposed. Beyond that you are not going to succeed. Therefore, we have to have a sense of proportion.

There are two parts in this Bill. One is where food is adulterated by inferior quality. Am I to tell you that your State Governments have done a bigger crime by forcing mill-owners to mix with good flour, flour made out of condemned wheat? Why did the Government not destroy its decomposed grains which it had hoarded in wrong ways? So, begin with your own Government. Pass a law that you cannot force the miller to use your rotting grains. That is point No. 1.

Secondly, the Government wants also to make money. For instance, in Hyderabad, which is still a very wet place, toddy is being doctored and adulterated. Toddy saccharine and an amount of chlorohydrate is imported by three chemists in Hyderabad in a quantity which is quite sufficient to put all the insomniacs in India to sleep for one year each night. Has your Government taken action?

Thirdly, in regard to this *vanaspati* controversy that is going on, I can tell you that in certain States, because it suited the manufacturer, they have allowed the mixing of 28 per cent. of linseed oil to your *vanaspati*. If you imagine that *vanaspati* is being manufactured entirely out of pure groundnut oil, you are making a mistake. They are mixing cottonseed oil. Palm oil is being imported from outside with the permission of your Commerce and Industry Ministry in order to mix it with *vanaspati*.

The next point is one which nobody has answered namely, in the manufacture of *vanaspati*, *i.e.*, in hydrogenisation, you have to use nickel salts as catalysers. Now, there is no process by which you can completely re-extract the nickel salt. If you will

[Dr. Jaisoorya]

kindly open a book on pharmacology and look at the toxic effects of nickel, you will find—not that it kills today or tomorrow, that is nonsense—but in the process of imbibation nickel affects the eye sight and has very deleterious effects on the pelvic organs of a woman. That nobody can deny. It is a fact. It is not merely the old theory, so much carbohydrate, so much this, so much that etc., but the quality of food taken in has to be considered. Now, what we call the melting point, the point at which it is absorbed into the body....

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): May I say that the manufacture of *vanaspati* has got nothing to do with this Bill?

Dr. Jaisoorya: Yes, madam, it has.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: And I do not think it is relevant to the Bill. If it is *vanaspati* which is being adulterated, that is another matter. Otherwise, it is irrelevant.

Dr. Jaisoorya: Mr. Chairman, I protest and I say I look upon *vanaspati* as injurious to the body and therefore it is adulteration as compared to ordinary oil, and I wish to be challenged on that point by people who know more about it than I do.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: This Bill is not concerned with the manufacture of *vanaspati*. This Bill is concerned with food adulteration. Now, if *vanaspati* is mixed with ghee, that certainly is adulteration of ghee as compared with pure ghee, but I cannot be held responsible for the manufacture of *vanaspati*. It is not under my Ministry and certainly does not come within the scope of this Bill.

Dr. Jaisoorya: I beg to submit I am not holding her, the hon. Minister, responsible for the manufacture of *vanaspati*. I am here raising a question which is concerned....

Mr. Chairman: This is not the point at issue. What the hon Minister says is, so far as the adulteration of *vanaspati* with ghee is concerned, it is perfectly relevant, but she objects that so far as the manufacture of *vanaspati* itself is concerned, this is outside the scope of the Bill. This is her contention which appears to be sound.

Dr. Jaisoorya: The definition of adulteration in the Bill says:

> "if any inferior or cheaper substance has been substituted wholly or in part for the article so as to affect injuriously the nature, substance or quality thereof;"

I have only given you the contents of *vanaspati*, I will leave *vanaspati* alone.

What about the cornering of edible oil into the hands of half a dozen people, so that the people in the districts, the ordinary man is denied the natural oil which otherwise he would have got? Am I to tell you, Sir, that in one district alone one single firm has cornered Rs. 1 crore worth of groundnut and now wants permission from the Government of India....

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Mr. Chairman, again I say this is irrelevant.

Mr. Chairman: Even here, I am afraid the hon. Member is trying to tread on doubtful ground, because we are not concerned with the effects of industrial enterprise, or, I should say further, hoarding or cornering etc. These are certainly outside the scope of the Bill.

Dr. Jaisoorya: Then, you are limiting it to a very absurd limit or extent, because it only comes to contamination. Actually, very little is adulteration, most of it is contamination. The man in the village is only concerned with....

Mr. Chairman: I do not deny these things may have a remote connection and at the same time injuriously affect the purity of certain ingredients of articles of food, but at the same

time they are not directly connected. We are only concerned with the Bill as such.

Dr. Jaisoorya: Then, I beg to submit that we are making a great fuss and much ado about nothing, if at the district level, we have got relatively well-trained and relatively honest sanitary inspectors who could do all this without this elaborate fuss. Your idea to have a Central Laboratory was with a view to seeing the quality of food, and how it affects in the long range. On that basis, I still maintain that *vanaspati* can be condemned on that ground. Further, the point is this. What about your elaborate machinery?

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. So far as the Central Laboratory is concerned, if it fixes a certain standard, all articles must answer that standard before they can be considered pure. That is why the provision is made here for a Central Laboratory. There is no doubt about that.

Dr. Jaisoorya: I quite agree with you. If the Central Laboratory is there only to lay down certain standards, well and good; but if the Central Laboratory is to be the sole arbiter of the condition and state of a thing at a remote corner, it is totally impossible.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I shall answer that question, in the course of my reply.

Shri S. S. More: There should be a Central Committee to lay down the standards.

Dr. Jaisoorya: If it lays down standards only, then, we would not stand against it.

My next point is this. I shall give you one other example, because I am a practical man. We talk about control of food. Take the case of railway catering. Standards have been laid down for catering on the railways. But complaints are coming by hundreds, from passengers, as to the rottenness of the food. There is a person called a food catering inspector. They are given two good dinners, and if some officer comes, he gets a still better dinner, and the report goes, the food is good. If this is the case, how is the food going to be improved? I, therefore, say that the consumer should have the right, when he purchases, to take samples of the food, before a *panch*. We are doing it already in Hyderabad, without all this grand and elaborate Bill. The consumer then seals it, takes the signature of the vendor and then sends it to the laboratory to get it analysed. Of course, there are laboratories and laboratories.

I shall give you one other instance. In a hospital contract, the sample article was certified as 97 per cent. pure ghee. Then the superintendent took a sample of the delivered stuff and sent it. The reply was 17 per cent. Then, the hospital committee protested, how did this happen, and so on? Then, the reply came, it was a mistake, it was a typing error, and it was 87 per cent. But it was 17 per cent.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the House for the interest it took in this Bill when it was first introduced. I introduced it as early as the law permitted me to introduce it. It was welcomed, and there was a two-day debate at that time also. No time was lost by me. The Bill was referred to a Select Committee, in November 1952, and by February 1953, the Select Committee's report was there. I would like to express my gratitude to the Members of the Select Committee who met for days on end, both morning and afternoon, in order to get the report ready. Now, I have been accused of negligence in not letting it come to the House before now. I should like to say that the Bill would have been somewhat more lucky if the Members had been anxious that it should come before the House. For my part, I asked every time, in every session that this Bill should come up. In addition, I asked Members to study the Bill and send me amendments. But no one evinced any interest in it, and now my Ministry has been working till very late on Saturday, Sunday and Monday

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nights in order to cope with the amendments that come. And some amendments have only come at 10-15 A.M. today. It is impossible for me to cope with everything.

Nevertheless, I would like to reply to a certain number of the points that have been raised during the general discussion. I must confess that I would like to give expression to a sense of regret that while the Bill is welcomed by the Members as a whole, there is a kind of sense of despair in the minds of all the Members that this Bill is never going to work. Everybody says, yes, adulteration is a universal menace. It is no good telling me that. I would not have brought this Bill forward, if I did not know that adulteration was a widespread menace. The thing is to do something to check it, and this Bill was brought forward in absolutely good faith, that something should be done, and I still believe that it is a step in the right direction. But I know also as well as any Member of this House that legislation alone cannot ever rid a country, a nation or a community or anybody of an evil. I therefore expect the co-operation of the public also.

This Bill has been framed, so as to make it easier for the public also to get at those who break the law. I have been told that no education has been done in this respect. I would like to refer Members to my utterances, year in and year out, day in and day out, calling adulteration a crime against humanity. I have not ceased to preach to social workers and to the business world, and I have not ceased to write to State Governments also that this is something that should be met with; I have also tried to get them to increase the machinery, which I know is inadequate, and also to raise the pay of those who are responsible for work so that they may be put above the temptations of bribery and corruption. All the State Governments have been consulted, and all of them have agreed to this Bill.

Much has been said by the last speaker against the Central Laboratory. The Central Laboratory is a laboratory for appeals only. It is the States that will have the laboratories. So, there is no question of tainted food being caught in a village and being sent up to Delhi. I do not know why everybody is saying that the Laboratory is going to be in Delhi. I would like to say to you that it is not going to be in Delhi. But that is neither here nor there. The Central Laboratory comes in only when we deal with any analysis on appeals. So, the States will indeed have their own laboratories, and they will have on or two, or three or four, or whatever number they want. Certainly, there will be one or two in the initial stages, and the food which is going to be taken and inspected will go to the nearest place. I have been asked why I have not defined 'food'. It is impossible for me in a Bill of this kind, to make definitions of 'food'. New foods are coming into being. Also, food technology is evolving at a rapid rate. Therefore, definitions cannot be made in a Bill of this nature, but they certainly will be made under the rules. As new foods come, the rules will be added to or subtracted from, as the case may be.

Much has been said about the local bodies. Among the local authorities, I have included the *panchayat* also. I have given careful study to the amendments that have come in, and I may say that my own amendments have been brought in, in order to accommodate as many of the amendments as I could possibly do within the time at my disposal. There are no District Boards in some States. So, I did not mention District Boards by name, but where they do exist, they will certainly come under the definition of local authority, which you will find on the top of page 3 in the Bill.

A point that was raised by many of the speakers was that the purchaser should be able to approach the local authority or State for launching prosecution under clause 20. Clause 20 was

intended merely to prevent frivolous or vexatious complaints. Under sections 272 and 273—I speak open to correction, where sections of the law are concerned—of the Indian Penal Code, we have provisions for punishment for adulteration and sale of adulterated foodstuffs. So, any private purchaser can file a complaint under these sections directly, without going through the local authority or the State Government. So, I think, clause 20 is all right, and we need not be anxious to amend it.

Then, summary trials have been recommended by some Members. I confess that I find this House seems to be divided on this issue. Some say the punishment that has been put down in this Bill is not enough. All the States have said that in their long experience, they have found that the punishments that are given under the existing provisions in the States are not deterrent enough. Therefore, the punishment was raised to something higher.

Now summary trials, according to section 260 of the Criminal Procedure Code, are not permissible for an offence punishable with imprisonment for a term exceeding six months. Therefore, we could not allow summary trials under this Bill and I think that if justice is to be done, well, we cannot go against the law, and when it is open to the purchaser to prosecute anybody under another law, then I do not think that it should be brought in here.

Shri Dabhi (Kaira North): Cannot a provision be made in this Bill for summary trials?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I think not, because as I have told you, the objection is that summary trials can only be held for offences punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

Shri S. S. More: You can say 'Notwithstanding section 260 of the Criminal Procedure Code, summary trials can be had'.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I cannot interfere with the law, and I would like it to remain as it is. After all, this is a step in the right direction. When we work it and when we find difficulties and if we find difficulties, it is always at our disposal to amend any clause.

One speaker objected very strongly to clause 21. I may say that it is already there in the Bombay Food Adulteration Act, and provisions similar to clause 21 are to be found in many of our Acts. So there is nothing extraordinary in it.

I have been asked to connect social workers with this work. Those things will come under the rules and directives. I cannot possibly include that kind of suggestion in an Act.

Now everybody has complained about the machinery which is in the hands of the State Governments as being callous, as being corrupt and as being inadequate. Well, it is for the State Governments to see that the machinery is brought up to standard.

One Member said that the reason for purchase of adulterated food is due to poverty. Well, I am not at all sure that the poorest man would buy adulterated food; in fact, I deny that the poorest man would like to buy even wheat or rice which is adulterated. It is to save the poor man from the menace of adulteration that this Bill is being brought in.

As far as *vanaspati* is concerned, there have been statements that it is bad for health and that I should have the courage to stop the manufacture of *vanaspati*. I may say that the manufacture of *vanaspati* is not part and parcel of adulteration and, therefore, it does not concern, and does not come within the scope of this Bill. Some other members have spoken about cornering of oilseeds or whatever it be. That does not come within the scope of this Bill either. I may also say that it is with very great regret that I have heard accusations against this Government—and I have the privilege of being a part of that Government today. Statements have been made that it is actually hand in glove

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with Big Business in order not to find a colouring matter for *vanaspati*. I take strong exception to these statements; they are thoroughly and absolutely unfair. If this Government is in tow with Big Business, obviously it must be in tow with Big Business in many other things, and if Members feel like that, they should ask us to leave these Benches. I think it is most unfair to say that we have deliberately tried not to get colouring matter. I may tell you that only this year when I was in the United Kingdom, I asked them as to whether, when they had made their scientific investigations when they wanted to colour margarine so as to differentiate it from butter, there had been any results, and they said 'We did our level best and we were not able to find a colour'. And what do you find today in the United Kingdom? Margarine next door to butter with labels "margarine" and "butter" on them. I have to confess with shame that there food adulteration is not a menace as it is in our country. Therefore, we have to raise the standards of integrity in our own country. I do not wish to go into the merits or demerits of *vanaspati* now. It has been represented that medical opinion says that hydrogenated vegetable oils are bad for health; there is a volume of opinion on the other side which says 'no'. We are trying as far as possible to improve *vanaspati*. I did plead that *vanaspati* should be fortified with certain vitamins and I did plead also— and the Government has accepted it—that no longer should *vanaspati* be called vegetable ghee. The term 'ghee' has been eliminated from there so that it is within the power of everybody to see what he is buying. I am no less anxious than anybody else that the children of this country—my children—should get pure milk and that everybody should get pure ghee. But where is it to come from? It is not there. All these things are interlinked. Unless we improve our cattle breed, unless we improve the quantity of milk that is available in the country, enough milk is just not available. I am feeding crores and crores of children with powdered milk that is given to us or is purchased from abroad. Until such time as I can produce pure and an adequate quantity of milk, what am I to do? So the answer to the elimination of *vanaspati* is not so much 'ban *vanaspati*' as to produce more ghee, more milk and more milk products in our country. I would venture to suggest that this is being tried to be done, but it is not a problem which can be solved overnight. In any event I am not concerned with the manufacture of *vanaspati*; nor am I here to deal with that. I am here to say this that if food on the railways is found to be adulterated, the Government officials or the railway employees can be prosecuted just as anybody else. Everybody will come under this Act. If it concerns food on the railways, anybody has got the right to take that food, give a sample of it according to the rules, and the railway can be prosecuted. I do not think any differentiation is meant to be made between any Government agency or any private agency or any shopkeeper.

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Mr. Chairman, I am anxious that we should go ahead with the clause by clause consideration of this Bill. I will say no more, but I would plead with the House to help me to create an atmosphere in the country which will welcome a Bill like this and do the education—Government cannot do everything—and accept this Bill in the spirit in which it has been put before the House, to bring about, or to enable us to have a healthy check on what is a veritable and a criminal menace in the country today.

Mr. Chairman: Before I put the motion to the House, may I just ask a question from the hon. Minister? Is it the contention of the hon. Minister that in spite of the fact that section 20 is there in the Bill, a private person will be able to prosecute an offender?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes. That is what I have been informed by the Law Ministry, that under sections 272 and

273 of the IPC any purchaser can file a complaint directly without going through the local authority or the State Government.

Mr. Chairman: It is perfectly correct, but here the words are:

> "No prosecution for an offence under this Act shall be instituted except by, or with the written consent of, the State Government....."

So far as offences under sections 272 and 273 are concerned, there is no such question, but so far as offences under this Act are concerned, a private person is proscribed from prosecuting as section 20 is there.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am told that it won't affect the right of the private purchaser to go and file a complaint.

Shri S. S. More: If the penal clauses of this particular Act are sought to be brought into operation on the prosecution of a private individual, then this clause 20 will come in the way because unless the Government consent, no prosecution can be started.

Mr. Chairman: That is exactly what I have been telling the hon. Minister.

Shri S. S. More: The hon. Minister's statement is not correct.

Mr. Chairman: This is her contention. It is for the House to pass the clauses of the Bill as they are or in an amended form. The hon. Minister is perfectly entitled to have her own contention.

Now, I will put it to the House.

The question is:

> "That the Bill to make provision for the prevention of adulteration of food, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2.— (*Definitions*).

Mr. Chairman: Now, let us proceed to clause by clause consideration of the Bill. We will take clause 2 first.

Shri Mulchand Dube (Farrukhabad Distt.—North): I have an amendment to clause 1.

Mr. Chairman: We have taken clause 2. Clause 1 will be taken up last of all. Does the hon. Member want to move amendment No. 49 in list No. 3?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Probably that comes after amendments Nos. 3 and 5.

Mr. Chairman: I am asking whether the hon. Member proposes to move amendment No. 49.

Shri Mulchand Dube: I beg to move:

In page 1, line 15, *before* "nature" *insert* "purity".

The word 'purity' should be put before the word 'nature'. We cannot overemphasise the word 'purity'. I think in clause 2 this word has not been used either in sub-clause (a) or (b) or (c). My point is that the word 'purity' should be added to all these sub-clauses.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 1, line 15, *before* "nature" *insert* "purity".

Before I proceed with the discussion of this amendment I would rather like to know from the hon. Members what amendments they are moving so that if there are more than one amendment on the same subject matter they may be considered together and, at the same time, we may be able to know the amendments that are not being moved. I will ask the hon. Members to indicate the numbers of the amendments which they propose to move.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I beg to move:

In page 1, line 16, *after* "substance" *insert* "quantity".

Shri Bogawat: I beg to move:

In page 1, line 20, *after* "injuriously" *insert* "or otherwise".

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I beg to move:

In page 1, line 22, *after* "substance" *insert* "or colourable imitation".

Shri Krishna Chandra (Mathura Distt.—West): I beg to move:

(i) In page 1, line 22, *after* "has been" *insert* "mixed or".

(ii) In page 1, lines 23 and 24, *omit* "so as to affect injuriously the nature, substance or quality thereof".

Shri Mulchand Dube: I beg to move:

In page 1, line 22, *before* "substituted" *insert* "mixed or".

Shri M. L. Agrawal (Pilibhit Distt. *cum* Bareilly Distt.—East): I beg to move:

(i) In page 2, line 19, *for* "and in amounts not" *substitute* "or any permitted colouring matter not in quantities".

(ii) In page 2, line 25, *after* "excess" *insert* "or short".

Shri Raghavachari (Penukonda): I beg to move:

In page 2, line 35, *for* "used" *substitute* "consumed".

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I beg to move:

In page 2, line 35, *for* "by man" *substitute* "for human consumption".

Shri Raghavachari: I beg to move:

(i) In page 2, line 35, *for* "man" *substitute* "person".

(ii) In page 2, line 35, *for* "man" *substitute* "a human being".

Shri Raghavachari: I beg to move:

In page 3, line 31, *for* "false" *substitute* "incorrect".

Shri Dabhi: I beg to move:

In page 4, *after* line 2, *insert*:

"*Explanation* 1.—For the purpose of sub-clause (c) any hydrogenated edible oil sold or advertised under the name of 'Vanaspati' or 'Vanaspati ghee' shall be deemed to be sold by a name which belongs to another article of food.

Explanation 2.—For the purpose of sub-clause (e), if a claim is made for an artcile of food that it possesses certain qualities, the burden of proving that the claim is not false shall lie upon the person making such a claim."

Shri Raghavachari: I beg to move:

In page 4, line 6, *omit* "manufacturing".

Shri Mulchand Dube: I beg to move:

In page 4, line 21, *for* "use" *substitute* "beings".

Shri Krishna Chandra: I beg to move:

In page 4, after line 21, *add*:

'(xvi) "Health Officer" means an officer incharge of health administration in a region or a local area of a State by whatever name he is called;

(xvii) "ghee" means animal fat derived from the milk of a cow or buffalo.'

Mr. Chairman: We have practically exhausted all the amendments to clause 2.

Amendments moved:

(1) In page 1, line 16, *after* "substance" *insert* "quantity".

(2) In page 1, line 20, *after* "injuriously" *insert* "or otherwise".

(3) In page 1, line 22, *after* "has been" *insert* "mixed or".

(4) In page 1, line 22, *before* "substituted" *insert* "mixed or".

(5) In page 2, line 35, *for* "used" *substitute* "consumed".

(6) In page 2, line 35, *for* "by man" *substitute* "for human consumption".

(7) In page 2, line 35, *for* "man" *substitute* "person".

(8) In page 2, line 35, *for* "man" *substitute* "a human being".

(9) In page 3, line 31, *for* "false" *substitute* "incorrect".

(10) In page 4, *after* line 2, *insert*:

"*Explanation* 1.—For the purpose of sub-clause (c) any hydrogenated edible oil sold or advertised under the name of 'Vanaspati' or 'Vanaspati ghee' shall be deemed to be sold by a name which belongs to another article of food.

Explanation 2.—For the purpose of sub-clause (e) if a claim is made for an article of food that it possesses certain qualities, the burden of proving that the claim is not false shall lie upon the person making such a claim."

(11) In page 4, line 6, *omit* "manufacturing".

(12) In page 4, line 21, *for* "use" *substitute* "beings".

Shri N. S. Jain (Bijnor Distt.—South): Mr. Chairman, I had given notice of an innocuous amendment but it was not in time. I have given it only today; it is for clause 2.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member knows the rules. If such amendments are given notice of on the day the clause is taken up, if the Government is willing to accept it I will waive notice; otherwise, it will be out of order.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Mr. Chairman, I may say that the amendments sent in by Mr. Ramaswamy were given to me at 10·15 this morning.

Mr. Chairman: When the amendments come, we look at them to see whether they are in order or not. Just now we are concerned with amendments to clause 2. If the hon. Minister cannot agree they cannot be taken up.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have not seen them.

Mr. Chairman: As a matter of fact, one copy must be sent to the Minister in charge. Unless she sees it she cannot be expected to say anything about it. It may be very acceptable, but unless she sees the amendment she cannot be expected to agree.

Shri N. S. Jain: If all the amendments are not finished by today, then the hon. Minister may take it up.

Mr. Chairman: Then it will be in time; there is no question of waiving notice. Just now the question is whether notice should be waived or not.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The amendments that I gave today relate to clause 16 etc.

Mr. Chairman: All these amendments are moved. Will it be convenient to the hon. Minister to take up these amendments one by one or to dispose of them all at the end?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I think they may be taken up one by one.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment No. 49 of Shri Mulchand Dube is open for discussion. He has already moved it.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I say the word 'purity' is redundant in view of the word 'quality'. After all, quality embraces purity and we should not load our Acts with superfluous words.

Shri Mulchand Dube: I would like to withdraw it.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I submit that the word 'quantity' may be inserted after the word 'substance'. As it reads, three categories are mentioned, nature, substance and quality. I want to add another category, namely, quantity. As I said earlier, if a particular food is said to contain a certain percentage of a substance and it is not there and something else is there, then certainly it is adulteration. The lack of quality will affect quantity also.

Mr. Chairman: If that is so, according to the hon. Member, then why put the word 'quantity' at all? He is arguing against himself. If the quality is affected by a particular quantity not being there, then it is an offence.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: If the quantity is not as it is stated to be, is it not an offence? Is it not adulteration? It may affect the quality or not.

Mr. Chairman: Unless the required quantities of ingredients are there, it would be taken to be an adulterated stuff.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Sir, it would amount to cheating. All that I want is that the Bill should be a fool-proof one.

Mr. Chairman: If the question of quantity alone is there, then it would amount to cheating, but at the same time if sufficient amounts of ingredients are not there which should make up a particular quality evidently it becomes an adulterated stuff according to the present definition.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Lack of proper quantity may amount to cheating under the Penal Code, but I want that lack of quantity should be made an offence under this Act itself.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: We are concerned with the quality of the article and if sufficient quantities are not there then it affects the quality which is an offence. I am not accepting the amendment.

Mr. Chairman: Is the hon. Member pressing his amendment?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No. I would like to withdraw it.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Shri Bogawat: Sir, I would also like to withdraw my amendment No. 4.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: Now, we go to amendment number 50 by Shri Mulchand Dube.

Shri Mulchand Dube: My amendment is that in page 1, line 17, *for* "prejudice" *substitute* "disadvantage". It is only a verbal amendment. I do not know whether the hon. Minister will accept it or not.

Mr. Chairman: Let us know the reaction of the hon. Minister. Is she prepared to accept it?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The word "prejudice" is more appropriate. It is much wider in its scope than the word "disadvantage".

Mr. Chairman: Is the hon. Member moving his amendment?

Shri Mulchand Dube: No.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Sir, my amendment number 5 is:

In page 1, line 22, *after* "substance" *insert* "or colourable imitation".

This is a well-known expression in cheating cases and trademark cases. Therefore, it needs no elaboration from me. I think this word also should be there to plug any loophole that may be there. It is to tighten up the law that I want to insert these words "or colourable imitation".

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am not accepting that amendment.

Mr. Chairman: Is the hon. Member pressing his amendment?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No.

Shri Krishna Chandra: Sir, my amendment number 80 reads thus:

In page 1, line 22, *after* "has been", *insert* "mixed or".

This is only a verbal amendment. In the Bill it is given as:

> "if any inferior or cheaper substance has been substituted wholly or in part....."

I want that this should be changed to:

> "if any inferior or cheaper substance has been mixed or substituted wholly or in part....."

so that the meaning might be quite clear. It is only a verbal amendment.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The word 'substituted' includes 'mixed' also. If you substitute it means that there is admixture or adulteration.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister is not prepared to accept the amendment. Is the hon. Member pressing his amendment?

Shri Krishna Chandra: No. I like to withdraw my amendment.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Shri Mulchand Dube: I too like to withdraw my amendment.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: Now, we will go to amendment number 81.

Shri Krishna Chandra: My amendment is:

In page 1, lines 23 and 24, *omit* "so as to affect injuriously the nature, substance or quality thereof".

In some cases it may be doubtful whether the nature, substance or quality of an article has been injuriously affected or not. Take for instance vegetable *ghee*. If vegetable *ghee* is adulterated with pure *ghee* it may be a question of controversy whether the admixture has injuriously affected the substance or quality of the article. Therefore, I want that even mixing of such substances which may not be injurious be declared as an offence. So, I want that these words may be deleted.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am not accepting the amendment. It is not necessary.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister is not accepting the amendment. Is the hon. Member pressing it?

Shri N. S. Jain: Sir, before we finish with this subject, we want some clarification on this point.

Mr. Chairman: When the hon. Memmer has moved the amendment and the reply has been given by the hon. Minister, I cannot force the hon. Minister to make a reply which will be regarded as satisfactory by the hon. Member.

Shri N. S. Jain: Then, let us at least express our opinion on this.

Mr. Chairman: I am only asking if the hon. Member wants to press his amendment. If he wants to press his amendment I can only put it to the vote of the House. That is only what I can do.

Shri N. S. Jain: I want to say something on this point.

Mr. Chairman: All right.

श्री एन० एस० जैन : प्रधान जी, मैं नहीं समझता कि क्यों इस तरमीम को मंजूर नहीं किया जाता । जो कानून के तरीके से इसको देखा जाय तो मैं समझता हूं कि अदालतों में इस पर एक बहुत बड़ी बहस हो जायगी अगर कोई मुकदमा इस कानून के अन्दर गया कि किसी चीज की मिलावट दूसरी चीज से करने में उसकी नेचर, सब्स्टेंस या क्वालिटी में कोई इंजूरियस इफेक्ट हुआ था नहीं हुआ । मेरा ख्याल यह है कि कानून को जितना सीधा बनाया जाय और जितना साफ बनाया जाय वह ज्यादा अच्छा होगा । बजाय इसके कि वकीलों को मौका दिया जाय और अदालतों को मौका दिया जाय कि उस पर मुक्ता चीनी करें और उसके ऊपर बहुत सी रूलिंग्स और कानून बनें । मैं समझता हूं कि मंत्राणी महोदया फिर इस पर गौर करेंगी और अच्छा हो अगर वह अपने लीगल एडवाइजर्स से भी मशविरा कर लें । अगर यह कानून ऐसा ही रहेगा जैसा कि इस वक्त मौजूद है तो यकीनन यह नतीजा होगा कि इसमें बहुत ज्यादा मुकदमेबाजी होगी और दूसरे फरीक को बहस का मौका मिल जायगा । मेरा ख्याल है कि यह लफ्ज इंजूरियस ही सब झगड़े की जड़ है । इसको निकाल दिया जाय । मैं समझता हूं

[श्री एन० एस० जैन]

कि मेरे जो और वकील भाई हैं वह इसको और बेहतर तरीके से बतला सकेंगे कि अगर यह कानून ऐसा ही रहा तो इसमें यह बहस की जा सकेगी कि ऐसा करने से यह दावा कायम नहीं होता । इसलिए मैं फिर अर्ज करूंगा कि इस पर गौर किया जाय और मैं चाहता हूं कि मंत्रिणी महोदया इस पर गौर करके मुनासिब तरमीम कर दें जिससे कि मामला साफ हो जाय कि अगर कोई भी चीज मिला दी जाय तो वह ऑफेंस हो जायगा वह पाप हो जायगा । मैं चाहता हूं कि कानून बनाते वक्त इसको साफ कर दिया जाय तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा बजाय इसके कि इसको वकीलों के लिए छोड़ दिया जाय ।

श्री अलगू राय शास्त्री (जिला आजमगढ़ पूर्व व जिला बलिया, पश्चिम) : अगर दूध में चीनी मिला दी जाय ?

Mr. Chairman: The matter has been argued at length and I am only enquiring if the hon. Member wants me to put it to the vote of the House?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: May I know what that amendment is? We do not know what the amendment is. It is a thing which has been circulated privately between you and the hon. Minister.

Mr. Chairman: Nothing has been done privately. That is not the way in which the hon. Member should criticise the Chair. We have been discussing the point so publicly and a reply has been made. I am putting the question to the House and if the hon. Member does not follow the discussion it is not the fault of the hon. Minister or the Chair. The hon. Member has got the amendment with him and he ought to be able to follow. The amendment has been read out and the hon. Member has just discussed it. The previous hon. Member also discussed it and the hon. Minister also has replied to it.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I could not follow it.

Mr. Chairman: Then, he should not complain, but he ought to try to follow.

Does the hon. Member want me to put it to the House?

Shri Krishna Chandra: No, Sir. I do not press it.

Mr. Chairman: List No. 2, amendment No. 6 is ruled out. Similarly, amendments Nos. 52, 53 and 54 are also ruled out.

List No. 4, amendment No. 82.

Shri M. L. Agrawal: My point is that colouring matter, which is not prescribed, would adulterate if it is mixed in any proportion, but if it is permitted, then, of course, it must be within the prescribed limits of variability. The intention behind is not borne out in the phraseology adopted in the Bill and I have, therefore, broken it into parts to make the intention clear. It appears from the present phraseology that even the colouring matter, which is not prescribed, should be in amounts or quantities within the prescribed limits, but that is not the intention. Therefore, my amendment makes this clear and it is more logical with the intention.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: In my opinion, it is quite clear that "any colouring matter other than that prescribed in respect thereof and in amounts not within the prescribed limits of variability is present in the article" really includes everything that the hon. Member wishes to say. If I were to add "or any permitted colouring matter not in quantities", it would confuse the issue.

Mr. Chairman: Does the hon. Member want me to put it to the House?

Shri M. L. Agrawal: If the hon. Minister does not appreciate my point, I do not wish to press my amendment.

Mr. Chairman: Does Mr. Agrawal want to say anything on his amendment No. 83?

Shri M. L. Agrawal: This amendment is rather verbal. It is stated here "its constituents are present in quantities which are in excess of the prescribed limits of variability". Sometimes, it may be in quantities which are short of the prescribed limits of variability.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: If it falls short of the amounts prescribed, then naturally it does not come within the law, for it is the excess that is sought to be catered for by the law.

Mr. Chairman: The amendment is not acceptable to the hon. Minister.

Shri M. L. Agrawal: I do not wish to press my amendment then.

Shri Raghavachari: I like to withdraw my amendment No. 84.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: List No. 2, amendment No. 12. Has Mr. Ramaswamy anything to say on this?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The definition of the word "food" as drafted here is jarring and inartistic. 'Food' means any article used as food or drink by man, woman and child. Look at page 4, line 13, where you have used a different phrase "for human consumption". Why can the same phrase not be used here? It is much more dignified. As it is at present worded, it is very inartistic.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I accept the amendment suggested.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

In page 2, line 35, *for* "by man" *substitute* "for human consumption".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The words "for human consumption" have been substituted and so I take it that Mr. Raghavachari's amendments Nos. 85 and 86 are now unnecessary.

Shri Raghavachari: I agree.

The amendments were, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment No. 55. What does Mr. Dube say about it?

Shri Mulchand Dube: I am suggesting the addition of the word "spices", because my idea is that condiments may not include spices.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Spices are being included in 'condiments'.

Mr. Chairman: I take it that the hon. Member does not wish to move his amendment.

Shri Mulchand Dube: Not moving.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment No. 56 of List No. 3. Mr. Dube again may say something on his amendment if he wants to.

Shri Mulchand Dube: My submission is that town areas also should be included.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: "Notified area" includes "town area".

Shri Mulchand Dube: Notified area is quite different from town area.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Everything is here and in my amendment, the *panchayat* also has to come here. The municipality is there; the municipal board, the municipal corporation, the cantonment, the cantonment authority, all are there.

Mr. Chairman: But they all relate to cities.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Then you have got under sub-clause (2) "any other local area, such authority as may be prescribed by the State Government under this Act".

Mr. Chairman: Yes, in sub-clause (2), 'town area' may be covered.

Shri Mulchand Dube: But 'town area' as such is not mentioned.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It need not be mentioned here and there is no point in mentioning it either.

Mr. Chairman: Sub-clause (2) is very wide. Though town area is quite different from notified area, it can be covered under sub-clause (2).

Shri Mulchand Dube: But that is left to be declared by the State Governments. If we are including a notified area here, there is no reason why a town area should be excluded from this clause.

Mr. Chairman: There is no question of its exclusion. The reply is that in sub-clause (2), town areas can be included by State Governments.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The hon. Member in discussion also said that district boards have been excluded. District Boards exist in some States, but they do not exist in certain others. Therefore, we have used the words "any other local area" in sub-clause (2). These, of course, are all over the country—the *panchayat*, the municipality, the cantonment, and the notified area.

Mr. Chairman: Shall I take it that the hon. Member is not moving his amendment?

Shri Mulchand Dube: I am not moving.

Mr. Chairman: Now, what has Mr. Raghavachari to say on amendment No. 88? What are his reactions?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: He wishes to substitute the word "incorrect" for the word "false".

Shri Raghavachari: My argument is this. The word "false" restricts the particular purpose, but the word "incorrect" is more extensive. In several cases, it is very difficult to prove that they are false, but it can be proved that they are incorrect. In my opinion, the word "incorrect" will serve a better purpose.

Mr. Chairman: I shall now put the amendment to the House.

The question is:

In page 3, line 31, *for* "false" *substitute* "incorrect".

The motion was negatived.

Shri Dabhi: My amendment is:

"*Explanation* 1.—For the purpose of sub-clause (c) any hydrogenated edible oil sold or advertised under the name of 'Vanaspati' or 'Vanaspati ghee' shall be deemed to be sold by a name which belongs to another article of food.

Explanation 2.—For the purpose of sub-clause (e), if a claim is made for an article of food that it possesses certain qualities, the burden of proving that the claim is not false shall lie upon the person making such a claim."

Explanation 1 is sought to be added to sub-clause (c) of clause 2 (ix), and Explanation 2 is sought to be added in respect of sub-clause (e) of clause 2 (ix). I shall first take Explanation 1.

Clause 2 (ix) reads as follows:

"An article of food shall be deemed to be misbranded—

(a) if it is an imitation of, or is a substitute for, or resembles in a manner likely to deceive, another article of food under the name of which it is sold, and is not plainly and conspicuously labelled so as to indicate its true character."

Sub-clause (c) reads as follows:

"(c) if it is sold by a name which belongs to another article of food;"

So, you will see that this clause prohibits any person from using, for a particular article of food, any name which belongs to another article of food. It is a very good clause. But now, I want, by adding my explanation, to make one thing clear. I need not speak anything further about the hydrogenated oils. But one of the ways, you know, by which this *vanaspati* manufacturers cheat and mislead the people is by using the word *vanaspati* for these hydrogenated edible oils

which are nothing but solidified oils. Anybody could argue that *vanaspati* is some article of food. *Vanaspati* means vegetable. A vegetable is an article of food. So, ordinarily, anybody would argue that it would cover this clause, if it is sold by any name belonging to another article of food. It may be argued that the clause, as it stands, would mean that henceforward, these hydrogenated oils cannot be called *vanaspati*. But I want to make this clear: I do not want to allow any solidified oil to be called *vanaspati* though I know that for a long time this name is used. Up to this time, the name *'vanaspati ghee'* was used. So, I want, by this explanation, to make it clear that hydrogenated oil should not be allowed to be called by the name of *vanaspati* or *vanaspati ghee*. Ordinarily, why should we allow this? They may use 'dalda' or any other name, but why should they use this word *'vanaspati'* unless they want to cheat or mislead people by the use of this word? For a long time, for some years, this name has been used, but that does not mean that we should allow the manufacturers to use this name now. So, there would be no harm in accepting my amendment. They may use any other name but why should they use *'vanaspati'*? I hope Government will accept this amendment regarding Explanation 1. With regard to Explanation 2...

Mr. Chairman: Let us first of all concentrate on Explanation No. 1. Has the hon. Minister anything to say?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: If, in this Bill, we take the name of one item, we have to name so many others also. I think it is very wrong because, after all, as a matter of fact, Government has given orders that *vanaspati* should no longer be sold under the name of ghee. In the definition here, everything is covered. I do not think that we should go out of our way to specify one thing for that is not the purpose of this Bill. The purpose of this Bill is to stop adulteration.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether the hon. Minister said that they want to prohibit the name of *vanaspati* for hydrogenated oils?

Mr. Chairman: There are two aspects. In respect of vanaspati ghee, the hon. Minister says that this is not the name given now. As regards the second aspect, she says there is no reason why we should select, out of the hundred and odd articles, this item alone and put it here in the Bill. Under the general provisions, if an article is mentioned, it will be covered, and if it is not, it will not come. There is no use specifying one article and putting it in this Bill. May I take it that the hon. Member does not want to press the amendment?

Shri Dabhi: I want to press it.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

In page 4, *after* line 2, *insert*:

> *"Explanation* 1.—For the purpose of sub-clause (c) any hydrogenated edible oil sold or advertised under the name of 'Vanaspati' or 'Vanaspati ghee' shall be deemed to be sold by a name which belongs to another article of food."

The motion was negatived.

Shri Dabhi: I shall now deal with the second part of my amendment—Explanation 2. Explanation 2 is in respect of sub-clause (e) of clause 2 (ix). This sub-clause reads as follows:

> "(e) if false claims are made for it upon the label or otherwise;"

So this clause forbids or prohibits the use of making false claim for particular articles of food. Sometime ago today, Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury gave an example of how these manufacturers give advertisements. I have read that advertisement which says that by taking *dalda* or *dalda vanaspati* an actress was able to dance for four hours with vigour. Now, this is certainly a false claim. My point is that in such cases, if false claims are made and when any trader claims certain qualities for a particular article of food he manufactures, the burden

[Shri Dabhi]

of proof must lie upon him to show that that particular article possesses those qualities. I referred to this example. I can also give you other examples of such advertisements. One advertisement says—it puts it in the mouth of one housewife—'It produces a miracle. Another advertisement says: "*Dalda vanaspati* brings out all the natural flavours in food. Even every-day dishes taste new and exciting." Again, "*Dalda vanaspati* cooks better, costs less." You will see that all these are false claims. If they make such claims saying that they possess such miraculous qualities, then, they must prove that those qualities are really there. The question then is, whether the burden of proof lies upon the accused. Under the circumstances, it is absolutely necessary that when they make such claims, the burden of proof must lie upon the person himself. Even in this Bill itself, you would see that proviso to clause 17 runs as follows:

> "Provided that nothing contained in this sub-section shall render any such person liable to any punishment provided in this Act, if he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of such offence."

So, my amendment is not against the spirit of this Bill. Even the Evidence Act says that if a particular fact is within the knowledge of the man concerned, then the burden of proof lies on that very person within whose knowledge that particular fact lies. In clause 19(2) of this Bill also the burden of proof is thrown upon the accused. We know that such patently false claims are being made by the manufacturers and traders: especially is this the case with regard to *Vanaspati*. So, when such false claims are made that a particular article of food possesses so many miraculous qualities, the burden of proof should lie upon the person who makes such claims. I would appeal to the hon. the Health Minister to accept my amendment.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am sorry I have to oppose this amendment. In the first place, advertisements do not come within the scope of this Bill; some advertisements have been dealt with in another Bill that I have brought. Further, the hon. Member has quoted clauses 17 and 19. But they are not at all analogous. I submit that if I accept this amendment it will only lead to harassment. It is a very onerous burden sought to be laid upon a person and I am not prepared to accept it.

Shri N. S. Jain *rose*—

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should have stood up before the Minister replied. However, I shall give him a chance this time.

श्री एन० एस० जैन : जो तरमीम मेरे भाई की एक्सप्लेनेशन के मातहत है मैं समझता हूं कि वह बहुत मुनासिब तरमीम है । मैं अभी इस बिल को देख रहा था । बदकिस्मती से हम लोगों ने इस बिल को बहुत दिन हुए तब देखा था । अब जब यह हाउस के सामने आया है तब से फिर देखा है । इसमें आप देखेंगे कि क्लाज २, ६ ई में दिया हुआ है :

> "an article of food shall be deemed to be misbranded (e) if false claims are made for it upon the label or otherwise;"

आप मुझे क्षमा करेंगे अगर मैं महज एक वकील के नुक्तेनजर इसके ऊपर रोशनी डालूं। अगर कोई मुकदमा इस सम्बन्ध में अदालत में जाय उसमें यह सवाल पैदा हो कि आया यह चीज जिसके ऊपर मुकदमा चलाया गया है इसके बारे में फाल्स क्लेम किया गया है या नहीं, तो इसका बरडन आफ प्रूफ प्रासीक्यूटर पर होगा । यह एक ऐसी चीज है कि जो फौजदारी के मुकदमों से वाकिफ हैं वह जानते होंगे कि मुलजिम अगर कुछ भी न कहे और प्रासीक्यूटर बरडन आफ प्रूफ को पूरा साबित न कर सके तो मुलजिम छूट जाता है । मैं

समझता हूं कि अगर कोई प्रोड्यूसर या मैन्युफैक्चरर फाल्स क्लेम करता है तो उसको प्रासीक्यूटर के लिए साबित करना नामुमकिन है क्योंकि यह तो मुलजिम ही जानता है कि किस लिहाज से उसने उस चीज के बारे में क्लेम किया है। मेरे भाई ने यह भी कहा कि जो चीज जिसके इल्म में होती है बार सबूत उसी पर होता है। लेकिन इसको फौजदारी के मुकदमे में दूसरी तरह से इंटरप्रेट किया जाता है और उसमें मुलजिम के ऊपर यह बार सबूत नहीं डाला जाता कि वह यह साबित करे कि यह जो चीज है और जो उसके बारे में लिखा है वह उसके इल्म में झूठा था बल्कि यह प्रासीक्यूटर को साबित करना पड़ेगा कि जो बात अखबार में या इश्तिहार में या लेबल पर लिखी गयी वह उस शख्स के इल्म में झूठ थी। मैं समझता हूं इन कानूनी पेचीदगियों को निकाल देना चाहिए और इस कानून को साफ बनाना चाहिए। अगर हम चाहते हैं कि इस कानून को बनाने वालों के दिलों की सफाई जाहिर हो तो हमको चाहिए कि इसमें वकीलों को लूपहोल न दिये जायं कि वह बड़े बड़े मेहनताने लेकर लोगों को बचाने में कामयाब हो सकें।

श्री अलगू राय शास्त्री : हर कानून में लूपहोल होते हैं।

श्री एन० एस० जैन : यह तो कानून बनाने वालों और वकीलों की अक्लमन्दी की दौड़ है। वकील हर कानून में छिद्र निकाल लेते हैं। लेकिन अगर हमको कानून बनाते वक्त छिद्र दिखायी दें तो हमारा फर्ज है कि हम उनको भर दें। मैं अर्ज करूंगा कि कि यह जो एक्सप्लेनेशन मेरे भाई ने दिया है यह बहुत ही इनाक्युअस है और मैं समझता हूं कि इससे कानूनी पेचीदगियों को दूर करने में कामयाबी हो सकेगी। इसके अल्फाज ये हैं :

"If a claim is made for an article of food that it possesses certain qualities, the burden of proving that the claim is not false shall lie upon the person making such a claim."

मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि इसमें क्या दिक्कत हो सकती है अगर इसको इस कानून में रख दिया जाय। इसके कहने का मतलब सिर्फ यही है कि बजाय इसके कि प्रासीक्यूटर के ऊपर यह बार सबूत हो कि वह यह साबित करे कि यह क्लेम झूठा है, यह मुलजिम के ऊपर बार सबूत हो जायगा कि वह यह साबित करे कि यह क्लेम सच्चा है। मैं आपके सामने इसकी मिसाल दे सकता हूं। अभी जब एंटी-करप्शन के लिए कानून बनाया गया उसमें इस तरह की दफा रखी गयी है कि मुलजिम को यह साबित करना पड़ेगा कि उसके पास ऐसे जराये थे और ईमानदारी के साथ वह इन चीजों को हासिल कर सकता था कि जिनके बारे में यह कहा जाता है कि यह चीजें उसके पास कहां से आयीं। तो मैं यह कहूंगा कि सिवा इस ख्याल के कि चूंकि यह बिल में पहले से मौजूद नहीं है इसको क्यों बढ़ाया जाय कोई ऐसी खास वजह मंत्रिणी महोदया ने नहीं बतलायी कि इसको क्यों न रखा जाय, या मुमकिन है कि मैं सुन न सका होऊंगा। लेकिन अगर इसको रख दिया जायगा तो मेरा ख्याल यह है कि हम उन कमियों को दूर कर देंगे जिनकी वजह से हम देखते हैं कि लोग छूट जाते हैं और बच जाते हैं। मैं दरख्वास्त करूंगा कि मंत्रिणी महोदया इस पर फिर गौर फरमायें और इसको मंजूर करने में कोई दिक्कत न डालें।

Mr. Chairman: I shall put the amendment to the House. This will become Explanation No. 1, because, Explanation No. 1, was negatived.

The question is:

In page 4, *after* line 2, insert:

"*Explanation* 1.—for the purpose of sub-clause (e), if a claim is made for an article of food that it possesses certain qualities, the

[Mr. Chairman]

burden of proving that the claim is not false shall lie upon the person making such a claim."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment No. 136.

Shri Raghavachari: I had given notice of a similar amendment earlier.

Mr. Chairman: If there are two amendments on the same subject, the amendment given by the hon. Minister will have precedence.

Shri Raghavachari: I do know that Rule, Sir.

Mr. Chairman: What difference does it make?

Shri Raghavachari: It would be more graceful...

Mr. Chairman: I have myself said that it will go in the proceedings that there was an amendment in the name of the hon. Member and yet I have called upon the hon. Minister in obedience to the rule that when there are two similar amendments the one given by the Minister should have precedence.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: If the hon. Member would like that amendment to go in his name, I have no objection whatever. Let him take the credit.

Shri Raghavachari: I am very thankful to the hon. Minister and I commend the amendment for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

In page 4, line 6, *omit* "manufacturing".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: Then we go to Shri Mulchand Dube's amendment (No. 57) that in page 4, line 21, *for* "use" *substitute* "beings". Is it acceptable?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No, Sir. "to human use" is very much better than "to human beings".

Shri Mulchand Dube: I like to with draw my amendment.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: Then we go to Shri Krishna Chandra's amendment (No. 90).

Shri Krishna Chandra: There is an obvious omission here. On page 7, in line 9 the words "previous approval of the Health Officer" are used. But "Health Officer" has not been defined in the Bill. Health Officers are called by different names in different States and different regions. I have simply made an effort to define "Health Officer" so that there may be no difficulty. I have said that "Health Officer" means an officer in charge of health administration in a region or a local area of a State by whatever name he is called—just on the lines on which "Health Authority" has been defined in the Bill. There is this lacuna and therefore I hope this amendment will be accepted.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am not willing to accept the amendment. If I go into details like this I shall have to accept so many other things.

Shri Krishna Chandra: Sir, I am not pressing my amendment.

Mr. Chairman: What about the second part that '*ghee*' means animal fat etc.?

Shri Krishna Chandra: I am not pressing it.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 3. (*Central Committee for Food Standards*).

Shri Kasliwal (Kotah-Jhalawar): I beg to move:

In page 4, *for* lines 23 to 28 *substitute*:

"3. *The Central Committee for Food Standards.*—(1) The Central Government shall, as soon as may be after the commencement of this Act, constitute a Committee called the Central Committee for Food Standards—

(a) to advise the Central Government and State Governments on matters arising out of the administration of this Act;

(b) to take suitable steps to create a social consciousness among the people regarding food standards; and

(c) to carry out other functions assigned to it under this Act."

I have already made a speech about this and I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is prepared to accept it.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: If the hon. Member would like me to say "(a) and (b)" I do not mind dividing the sentence. I do not, however, think it is necessary because it is perfectly clear. But it cannot be the duty of this Committee to take suitable steps to create a social consciousness among the people. This is a Committee meant to advise Government. The Governments will be advised as to what steps they can take for advertisement, publicity and so on. I do not think that item (b) as put forward in the amendment is at all necessary. You cannot take suitable steps to create a social consciousness in an Act; I mean it is not possible. Therefore I think the clause should stand as it is.

1 P.M.

Shri Kasliwal: Then I do not press the amendment.

Shri B. K. Das (Contai): I beg to move:

In page 4, line 28, *after* "matters" *insert* "relating to the proper implementation and".

I want that the functions of the Central Committee for Food Standards should be clearly stated. Of course it is not defined as to what duties and functions this Central Committee for Food Standards will perform; it is intended that it will be an advisory body and that it will advise the Central and State Governments on matters arising out of the administration of this Act. It is not clear whether in the matter of implementation of this Act also this Central Committee will perform certain functions. I want that the Central Committee should be a committee which will also scrutinise and supervise how the provisions of this Act are being implemented. If the words I have suggested are put in, then the function of this Committee will be more clear.

Of course when the rules are made under sections 23 and 24, this Committee will be consulted, and this Committee will also generally advise the State and Central Governments. But in my opinion if these words are put in the Act itself, then this Committee will have a wider scope and it will function better.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I think that rather than widening the scope, this will be narrowing it. I think "to advise the Central Government and the State Governments on matters arising out of the administration of this Act" is perfectly clear, and it is very wide. And "to carry out the other functions assigned to it under this Act" means implementation. I would rather not narrow the clause; I think it is a good clause as it stands.

Shri B. K. Das: I do not press the amendment.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I beg to move:

In page 5, *after* line 2, *add*:

"(i) two representatives of the food industry".

[Shri S. V. Ramaswamy]

This is only to clarify things. Clause (g) on page 4 says "two representatives of industry and commerce nominated by the Central Government". I want it to be more specific, that representatives of the food industry be appointed, because this deals with food adulteration. Therefore it may be specific that it will be representatives, not of any other industry and commerce, but of industry and commerce dealing with food. That is my only object.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I can assure the hon. Member that, naturally, it will be the food industry that will be represented there and not an industry which is wholly unconnected with the Bill. And in addition there are experts to be nominated by the Central Government. We have tried to keep the membership as wide as possible. And I do not think the addition of the word "food" is necessary.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I do not press it.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4.—(*Central Food Laboratory*).

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I beg to move:

(i) In page 5, line 19, *after* "Laboratory" *insert* "at a central place in India".

(ii) In page 5, *after* line 32, *add*: (3) "All such rules shall be laid on the Table of the House within one month of their being framed."

In amendment No. 22, all that I was anxious about is that it may be located at a place central to India. Perhaps this is not germane to the Act. But, I want an assurance from the hon. Minister that it would be in a place central to India. If the hon. Minister is pleased to give an assurance, I shall be content.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister has already said that in her speech.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I do not press amendment No. 22. With regard to amendment No. 23, the hon. Minister has been pleased to give an amendment No. 134 on the lines of my amendment. It reads as follows:

> "All rules made by the Central Government under this Act shall, as soon as may be after they are made, be laid before both Houses of Parliament."

This is with regard to another clause. I want a similar provision to be made for clause 4 also. I do not think the hon. Minister can have any objection.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): Speak to the House. The House must be convinced before it could vote.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: There are certain rules to be framed for the Central Food Laboratory. There is no provision in the Bill for placing these rules framed by the Government before this House. In principle, the hon. Minister has accepted the position which I have urged in another amendment, No. 46, wherein I have stated that the rules under clause 23 must be placed before the House. To the same extent, the hon. Minister has moved amendment No. 134, accepting in principle what I have urged. If it can be accepted in respect of clause 23, there cannot be any difficulty in accepting the same position for clause 4. Any rules under clause 4 may therefore be placed before this House. That is my object.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: These amendments were placed on my table at about quarter past ten. I have been busy in the House and I have not had the time to study them. Considering

that I am bringing an amendment that all rules made by the Central Government under this Act shall, as soon as may be, after they are made, be placed before both Houses of Parliament, surely, that should be sufficient. You do not want anything more after each clause about rules. My amendment says, all rules made under the Act.

Mr. Chairman: The other amendment is all inclusive.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I do not press my amendments.

Mr. Chairman: There is no other amendment to clause 4.

The question is:

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 5 to 8 were added to the Bill.

Clause 9.— (*Food Inspectors*).

Shri S. N. Das (Darbhanga Central): The first amendment that I have proposed is No. 24. That was the original amendment. This is a consequential amendment.

Mr. Chairman: We are now on clause 9. The hon. Member's amendment is No. 25, list No. 2. Clause 8 has been passed.

Shri S. N. Das: I say regarding clause 9. This is with regard to the appointment of Food Inspectors.

I beg to move:

In page 6, lines 41 and 42, *after* "qualifications" *insert* "and in a manner as may be prescribed".

The qualifications should be as laid down by rules which will be framed by the Central Government. The purpose of my amendment is this. The manner of appointment should also be as laid down in the rules. Of course, the qualifications will be laid down. There should be some Board which the Central Government will prescribe and through that Board, the appointment of all Food Inspectors should be made. Therefore, I am suggesting that these words may be inserted. The clause as amended will read as follows:

"(1) Subject to the provisions of section 14 the State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint persons in such numbers as it thinks fit, having the prescribed qualifications and in a manner as may be prescribed....."

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I think this is quite unnecessary. After all, every State has its own rules and its own procedure for appointment. They will always prescribe them. It would be absurd for me in a Central Act to put these down. We have to leave it to the States.

Shri S. N. Das: I do not press my amendment.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 9 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 9 was added to the Bill.

Clause 10.— (*Powers of Food Inspectors*).

Shri Hem Raj (Kangra): I beg to move:

In page 7, line 23, *after* "such article" *insert* "and shall also inquire from him the source of the article, if any".

सभापति महोदय, क्लाज १० का जो मंशा है वह यह है कि जो मिलावट होती है खुराक की चीजों में उस को रोकना । लेकिन विधेयक का मनशा यह है कि जिस के कब्जे में वह चीज होगी वही कानून की गिरिफ्त में आवेगा और जहां से वह चीज चलती है वह गिरिफ्त में नहीं आ सकता है । इसी लिये मैं ने पृष्ठ ७ पर लाइन २३ में अपना यह एमेन्डमेन्ट दिया है । जहां से वह चीज चलती है वहां पर चेक होना चाहिये । इस वक्त के वाक्यात को देखते हुए जो चोर की मां है

[Shri Hem Raj]

उस को पकड़ा जाय । जहां से वह चीज चलती हैं वहां पर सारा एडल्टरेशन होता हैं लेकिन उन को पकड़ा नहीं जाता लेकिन जो रिटेल डीलर होते हैं, छोटे छोटे दुकानदार होते हैं वे ही पकड़े जाते हैं । जितने चालान होते हैं अगर उन को देखा जाय तो आप पायेंगे कि जितने छोटे छोटे दुकानदार हैं उन्हीं का चालान होता हैं और जहां से वह चीज चलती हैं उस को कोई पूछने वाला नहीं हैं । जहां पर आप ने डिफेन्सज का मामला लिया हैं वहां पर आप ने यह कर दिया हैं कि जो पकड़ा जाय वह अगर यह कह दे कि फलां जगह से लिया हैं तो वह छूट सकता हैं । लेकिन यह होता नहीं हैं । करने वाला जो दूर से यह काम करता हैं उस को कोर्ट में लाया जाय । इसी को ठीक करने के लिये मैं ने अपना एमेन्डमेन्ट दिया हैं । मुझे उम्मीद हैं कि मेरी बात को स्वास्थ्य मंत्रिणी जी कबूल कर लेंगी ।

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The amendment is that the Food Inspector should enquire as to the source from where the article of food has come. It is not part and parcel of the job of the Food Inspector. How can you put this kind of an inquisitorial burden on him?

Shri Hem Raj: If the hon. Minister is not accepting it, I do not press my amendment.

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : मैं इत्मीनान दिलाना चाहती हूं कि ऐसे लोगों का पकड़ना इन्स्पेक्टरों का काम नहीं हैं । लेकिन जिस वक्त कार्रवाई शुरू होगी तो जरूर इस बात की खोज होगी कि कहां से वह चीज आई, उस का मालिक कौन हैं और उस के खिलाफ हमें करना चाहिये । लेकिन यहां तो इस को नहीं लिखना चाहिये ।

I beg to move:

In page 7, *after* line 31, *insert*:

"Provided further that the food inspector shall, in exercising the powers of enrty upon, and inspection of any place under this Section, follow, as far as may be, the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Act V of 1898), relating to the search or inspection of a place by a police officer executing a search warrant issued under that Code."

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: What about my amendment No. 26?

Mr. Chairman: Let us finish this.

Is any discussion necessary on this amendment?

Some Hon. Members: No discussion.

Mr. Chairman: I put it to the House.

The question is:

In page 7, *after* line 31, *insert*:

"Provided further that the food inspector shall, in exercising the powers of entry upon, and inspection of any place under this Section, follow, as far as may be, the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Act V of 1898), relating to the search or inspection of a place by a police officer executing a search warrant issued under that Code"

Shri Tek Chand (Ambala-Simla): On an important clause like that. I thought you were inviting some contribution

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member was perhaps not attentive. I distinctly asked Members if they wanted to discuss this. Nobody stood up. Instead of accepting the blame for not standing up in time, the hon. Member wants to blame the Chair.

Shri Tek Chand: I do not want to blame you.

Mr. Chairman: I put it specifically to the House if anybody wanted to speak. Now, I have to put the motion.

Shri Tek Chand: If you will kindly allow.....

Mr. Chairman: I am sorry I have put the motion before the House. I am taking the vote now.

In page 7, *after* line 31, *insert*:

"Provided further that the food inspector shall, in exercising the powers of entry upon, and inspection of any place under this Section, follow, as far as may be, the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Act V of 1898), relating to the search or inspection of a place by a police officer executing a search warrant issued under that Code."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: There are other amendments also. They are fairly good in number. So, we cannot finish.

Shri S. S. More: Time is up.

Mr. Chairman: Let him kindly resume his seat. After all, I am stating the same thing, that the amendments are too many and therefore I do not want to proceed further. Why should the hon. Member be so impatient? He should resume his seat.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock on Wednesday, the 25th August, 1954.